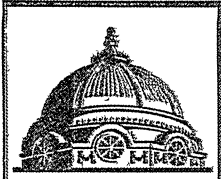


# **Missouri Board on Geographic Names**

**September 26, 2000**

**Little Whitewater River/Creek  
Whitewater River/Creek**



**Southeast**  
Missouri State University

ONE UNIVERSITY PLAZA • CAPE GIRARDEAU, MISSOURI 63701-4799 • (573) 651-2000

September 26, 2000

Missouri Board of Geographic Names/Guests:

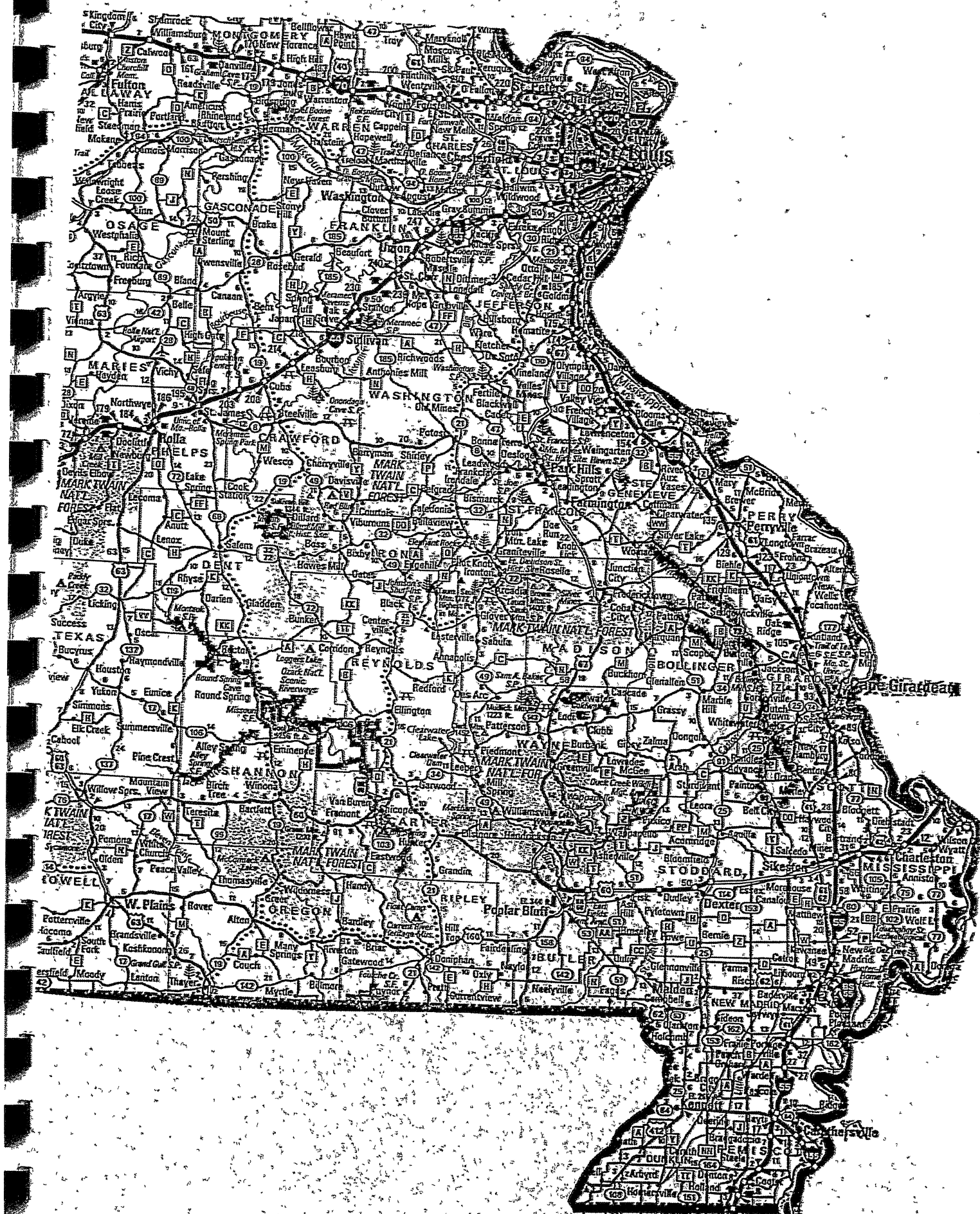
Please find attached a revised set of materials related to the  
nomenclature issues of:

The Little Whitewater River/Creek, and  
The Whitewater River/Creek.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank Nickell".

Dr. Frank Nickell, Director  
Center for Regional History



**Missouri Board On Geographic Names  
Name Issue Worksheet  
26 September 2000**

**NAME ISSUE:** Name evaluation for the "Whitewater River" vs. "Whitewater Creek."

**PROPOSAL:**

Submitted by: Dr. Frank Nickell, Director, Center For Regional History, Southeast  
Missouri State University, One University Plaza, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, 63701.

Received from: Dr. Frank Nickell, Director, Center For Regional History, Southeast  
Missouri State University, One University Plaza, Cape Girardeau, Missouri, 63701.

**DATE:**

Submitted: 22 August 2000

Received: 23 August 2000

Begins in St. Francois County, Missouri, Twp ~~34 N Range 8 E.~~

Ends in Stoddard County, Missouri, Twp 29 N Range 11 E.

Revised: 18 September 2000

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

Begins in St. Francois County, Missouri, Twp 34 N Range 8 E.

Ends in Stoddard County, Missouri, Twp 29 N Range 11 E.

The headwaters of the "Whitewater" are spring-fed or rainwater tributaries located in St. Francois County, Missouri at Township 34 N and Range 8 E. This waterway travels southeast into Perry County, Missouri at Township 34 N Range 8E, then continues southeast into Bollinger County, near Sedgewickville, Missouri, at Township 33 N Ranges 9, 10, & 11 E. The "Whitewater" enters Cape Girardeau County, Missouri at Township 33 N Range 11 E and travels due south through Township 32 Range 11 E. The waterway continues due south to Township 30 N Range 11 E where it is dissected by the Headwaters Diversion Channel of the Little River Drainage District. Immediately south of the Headwaters Diversion Channel the watercourse continues south where it bifurcates 1.6 miles north of Randles, Missouri to create an eastern and western channel. Both of these channels flow south through Township 29 North R 11 E with the western creating the county line between Scott and Stoddard counties, Missouri. At approximately 3.6 miles south of Painton, Missouri they converge to create the Little River in Township 29 N Range 11 E in Stoddard County, Missouri.



### **GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION:**

County: St. Francois, Perry, Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Scott and Stoddard.

Begins in St. Francois County, Missouri in Township 34 N Range 8E and ends in Stoddard County, Missouri Township 29 N Range 11 E.

Communities Involved: The locale of Thompson Holler, and communities of Yount, Alliance, Sedgewickville, Millersville, Burfordville, Whitewater, Allenville, Delta, Randles and Perkins, Missouri.

Forest & Parks: Mark Twain National Forest, Clark National Forest, Lake Girardeau Conservation Area, Burfordville State Historic Site.

### **GEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The Whitewater begins in an area of rolling hills in St. Francois county, north and east of Fredericktown, Missouri. It begins as scattered rain water run-off, falling through ravines and valleys from an elevation of 1316 and 1394 feet above sea level. As these high-land tributaries converge, the waterway evolves into a narrow course with a gravel, rock, or sand base. At various points heavy rain run-off has created holes which frequently reach a depth of eight to ten feet, popular with residents for fishing and swimming. By the time the waterway widens and empties into the Diversion Channel and the Little River in Stoddard County it has fallen approximately six hundred feet.

### **OTHER NOMENCLATURE:**

Also known as Old River, Old Whitewater, White Water, White Water River, Whitewater River, Big Whitewater, Big Whitewater River, Whitewater Creek, White Water Creek, Big White Water Creek, East & West Branch of the White Water, Eastern and Western Channels of the White Water, Whitewater River Ditch, The Ditch, and (Whitewater) Brook.

### **CONCLUSIONS:**

The waterway in southeast Missouri commonly referred to as "the Whitewater" has had many name designations. From the territorial period through the Civil War era common usage labeled this as "White Water Creek," with its main tributary identified as the Little White Water Creek. The designation of the "Whitewater" has generally been continued to this day with a tendency to *not* refer to the suffix of either creek or river. Available land records indicate that

from the early nineteenth century into the twentieth century the main stem of the watercourse was identified as "White Water Creek."

At the beginning of the twentieth century there was an increased interest in the drainage of the giant wetlands of southeast Missouri. This led to the 1907 formation of the Little River Drainage District. For nearly a century the LRDD has ditched, drained, and converted nearly two million acres of southeast Missouri wetland into prime agricultural land, some of the most productive in the nation. In this century-long process the LRDD has consistently referred to the Whitewater as the "Whitewater River."

Also early in the century the formation of the state highway system and a land survey system brought non-local surveyors to the region, adding to the diversity of terminology of roads, bridges, and waterways. Other factors which contributed to this diversity include the formation of a strong and independent county government system; a rapid population growth between 1910 and 1930; and a substantial number of stable land owners.

At the present time local usage north of Highway 72 and south of the Diversion Channel tends toward the term, "Whitewater Creek." Between Highway 72 and the Diversion Channel the watercourse is generally referred to as the "Whitewater River." This seems due to the fact that the hills north of Highway 72 are more pronounced with run-off from small springs and occasional heavy rains. South of Highway 72 the terrain is more level and the course wider with a capacity for a greater volume of water. Residents of the communities Whitewater and Allenville generally designate this the "Whitewater River" as they are occasionally isolated by bottomland flooding. Those who live between the Diversion Channel and the Whitewater's convergence with the Little River consistently identify it as a creek.

When the Diversion Channel was created the Whitewater essentially became two waterways, most accurately labeled, "upper," and "lower." These are, for all purposes, two separate watercourses. A vivid illustration of that occurred in the flood of 1993 when the "upper" Whitewater was at such a high level that the communities of Whitewater and Allenville were isolated, the latter community for several weeks. At the very same time the "lower" Whitewater, a few feet across the Diversion Channel, was in a condition of drought. Irrigation units south of the Diversion Channel were distributing water within a few feet of the flooded channel, in some cases spraying into flooded waterways.

The "upper" Whitewater is essentially made up of high-land spring and rainfall run-off, often moving at high velocity. This water empties into the Diversion Channel and is moved into the Mississippi River south of Cape Girardeau.

The "lower" Whitewater is comprised of low-land run-off from rain or irrigation water. Approximately one and one-half miles north of the community of Randles this watercourse bifurcates into eastern and western channels. At a point 3.6 miles south of Painton, the two channels converge into Ditch 34 of the Little River Drainage District and the water either evaporates or is carried into the Mississippi near Helena, Arkansas.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Based upon historical precedent and for purposes of standardizing the nomenclature it is hereby recommended that:

1. the most appropriate designation of this watercourse should be, "Whitewater Creek."
2. there should be a designation of "upper" and "lower" Whitewater for (a) the portion of the watercourse above the Diversion Channel, and (b) the portion of the watercourse below the Diversion Channel.

### **SOURCES:**

Dept. of Geology & Land Survey, 111 Fairgrounds Road, Rolla, Missouri, 65401. Volume 217, pages 79, 80, 81 and 93, February 1818. A written survey of Bollinger County, Missouri.

Cape Girardeau, Geological Survey, Missouri-Illinois-Kentucky, 1:100,000-scale metric topographic map, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1986, 37089-A1-TM-100.

Paducah, Geological Survey, Kentucky-Illinois-Missouri-Indiana, 1:250,000-scale metric topographic map, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1987, 37088-A1-TM-250.

Rolla, Geological Survey, Missouri-Illinois, 1:250,000-scale metric topographic map, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1989, 37090-A1-TM-250.

Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission: Future Land Use Plan, 4 September 1986, exhibit #71.

Missouri Atlas & Gazetteer, Yarmouth, Maine: Delorme, 1998.

Houck, Louis. A History of Missouri: From the Earliest Explorations and Settlements Until The Admission Of The State Into The Union, 1908 R.R. Donnelly & Sons Company, Chicago. Volume 1.

Jackson, Donald, editor. Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with Related Documents 1783-1854. University of Illinois Press, Urbana, 1962.

Bollinger County: 1851-1976, A Bicentennial Commemorative, Bollinger County Bicentennial Commission, July 1977, pages 29 & 30.

Plan For Drainage, The Little River Drainage District, 1907.

Topographical Maps for the Little River Drainage District, 1924.

**Index Map Of The Little River Drainage District And Adjacent Territory**, by Isaac A. Smith, Del. Sheet 1, August 1926. Drawing Number 1665, Index 107.32, File K-3.

**Missouri: Official Highway Map 1999-2000**, Missouri Department of Transportation.

**Goodspeeds History of Southeast Missouri**, 1888.

Douglass, Robert Sidney. **History of Southeast Missouri**, 1912.

Houck, Louis **A History of Missouri: From The Earliest Explorations And Settlements Until The Admission Of The State Into The Union**, R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company, Chicago, 1908.

**Bollinger County: 1851-1976 A Bicentennial Commemorative**, Bollinger County Bicentennial Commission, July, 1977.

Shrum, Edison. **The History of Scott County, History: Up To The Year 1880**, Scott County Historical Society.

Jackson, Donald, editor. **Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with Related Documents 1783-1854**, University of Illinois Press, Urbana. 1962.

**Missouri Atlas & Gazetteer**, Yarmouth, Maine. DeLorme, 1998.

**Indirect Deed Index, Book 1. Book 1, pages 147 & 148**, Recorder of Deeds Office, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri.

**Indirect Deed Index, Book 1. Page 434**, Recorder of Deeds Office, Cape Girardeau, County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri.

**Survey of Township 29, Range 11**, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. Surveyor, Jenifer Sprigg. September, 1826.

**Survey Map of Township 29, Range 12**, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. Surveyor, Silas Reed. August 26, 1842.

**Survey of Township 31, Range 11, Sections 26 & 25**, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. April 25, 1844.

**Survey of Township 30, Range 11**, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. Surveyor, M. Lewis Clark, Surveyor General. December, 1852.

**Survey of Township 32, Range 11**, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. Surveyor M. Lewis Clark, Surveyor General. December, 1852.

**Cape Girardeau County Range and Township Map of 1966**.

**Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission: Future Land Use Plan**, September 4, 1986, exhibit #71.

**River Classifications**, U.S. Government, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 1998.

**Oxford English Dictionary**, Second Edition, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1989.

**Plan For Drainage: The Little River Drainage District**, 1907.

**1861 Major Operations of Grant's Command, in Late 1861**.

**1863 Marmaduke's Expedition to Cape Girardeau**.

**1880 Rand, McNally & Company's Indexed Atlas Of The World**.

**1924 Little River Drainage District Topographical Maps**.

**1926 Index Map Of The Little River Drainage District and Adjacent Territory.**  
**1964 Topography Map.** Missouri State Highway Department.

**Bollinger County, Missouri:**

Personal Interviews.

Indirect to Direct Land Transfers, Recorder of Deeds, Bollinger County  
Courthouse, Marble Hill, Missouri, 63764.

Photographs.

**Cape Girardeau County, Missouri:**

Personal Interviews.

Indirect to Direct Land Transfers, Recorder of Deeds, Cape Girardeau County  
Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri, 63755.

Surveyor Map, 25 April 1844, Twp 31 & Range 11.

Surveyor Map, 30 December 1852, Twp 32 & Range 11.

Surveyor Map, 24 May 1852, Twp 31 & Range 11.

Surveyor Map, 30 December 1852, Twp 30 & Range 11.

County Range & Township Map, 1966.

Photographs.

**Perry County, Missouri:**

Personal Interviews.

Indirect to Direct Land Transfers, Recorder of Deeds, Perry County, Missouri,  
63775.

Plat Book, Topographical Maps, Missouri State Highway Department, Division of  
Highway Planning, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads,  
1967.

Survey Map, 1915, Township 34 Ranges 8 E & 9 E.

Range and Township Map, Zahner & Associates, 1994.

Photographs.

**Scott County, Missouri:**

Personal Interviews.

Survey Map, 25 August 1842, Township 29 & Range 12.

Photographs.

**Stoddard County, Missouri:**

Personal Interviews.

Survey Map, 2 September 1826, Township 29 & Range 11.

Photographs.

**Missouri Board On Geographic Names  
Name Issue Worksheet  
26 September 2000**

**NAME ISSUE:** Name evaluation for the "Little Whitewater Creek" vs. "Little Whitewater River."

**PROPOSAL:**

Submitted by: Dr. Frank Nickell, Director, Center For Regional History,  
Southeast Missouri State University, One University Plaza, Cape Girardeau,  
Missouri, 63701.

Received from: Dr. Frank Nickell, Director, Center For Regional History  
Southeast Missouri State University, One University Plaza, Cape  
Girardeau, Missouri, 63701.

**DATE:**

Submitted: 22 August 2000

Received: 23 August 2000

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

**LITTLE WHITEWATER CREEK:**

The headwaters of the "Little Whitewater" are spring-fed or rainwater tributaries located in Township 33 N, Range 8E, near County Road 916 in Bollinger County, Missouri. These water sources merge immediately north of present day Highway 72 approximately 1.6 miles west of Patton Junction, Bollinger County, Missouri. The waterway at this point increases in width to accommodate the seasonal spring run-off with an average depth of approximately 18 inches to two feet. It then travels predominantly southeast to merge with the Whitewater River/ Creek 2.4 miles north of Burfordville, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri, Township 31 N, Range 11 E. It is approximately 19.2 miles in length and falls from the headwaters (elevation 1316 feet) to the mouth (elevation 964 feet), a drop of 352 feet.

**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION:**

County: Cape Girardeau and Bollinger.

Township 33 N, Range 8 E to Township 31 N, Range 11 E (mouth).

Communities Involved: North Patton, Patton Junction, Patton and Mayfield, Missouri.

### **GEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The headwaters of this watercourse are spring-fed and rainwater tributaries located near County Road 916 in Bollinger County, immediately north of Highway 72. It travels southeast where it converges with the Whitewater River approximately 2.4 miles north of Burfordville, Cape Girardeau County, in Township 31 N and Range 11 E in Cape Girardeau County. It is approximately 19.2 miles in length and falls from the headwaters (elevation 1316 feet) to the mouth (elevation 964 feet) creating a drop of 352 feet.

### **OTHER NOMENCLATURE:**

Also known as Little Whitewater Creek, Little White Water Creek, Whitewater Creek, Little Whitewater, White Water Creek, Little Whitewater River, Little White Water, The Little Whitewater.

### **CONCLUSION:**

The waterway in southeast Missouri commonly referred to as the Little Whitewater Creek has had many name designations. From the territorial period through the Civil War era common usage labeled this as "**Little White Water Creek**" (see enclosed maps). The nomenclature as the "Little White Water Creek" or the "Little Whitewater Creek" has generally been continued to this day with a tendency to refer to the stream as the "Little White Water" or "Little Whitewater" without a creek or river suffix.

Available land records indicate that from the early nineteenth century to the twentieth century this watercourse was identified as "Little White Water Creek." The formation of the state highway system and a land survey system for the region brought non-local surveyors into the area which added to the diversity of terminology for roads, bridges, and waterways. Other factors which contributed to this diversity included the formation of a strong and independent county government system; a rapid population growth between 1910 and 1930; and a substantial number of stable land owners.

At the present time local usage is consistent with "Little Whitewater Creek." Interviews with residents supports the usage of creek. Most interviewees referred to "Whitewater" as one word. This is likely due to the name of the town of Whitewater located south of the mouth of the waterway and the use of one word for the township.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Based upon historical precedent and for purposes of standardizing the nomenclature it is hereby recommended that the most logical designation of this watercourse should be the "Little Whitewater Creek."

**SOURCES:**

See Name Issue Worksheet for Whitewater Creek.



Whitewater River/Creek  
Little Whitewater River/Creek

Documentation of  
Name Variations Associated With The Bibliography

Bollinger County: 1851-1976 A Bicentennial Commemorative, Bollinger County Bicentennial Commission, July 1977.

"Bollinger County is well drained by **Whitewater** in the northeast, Castor in the southwest, Crooked, Hurricane and Perkins Creeks in the central and southern areas. Swamplands in Bollinger County were drained in the early part of this century by machine-made diversion channels through a plan supervised by the Little River Drainage District."

Cape Girardeau County Range and Township Map of 1966.

This county range and township map still in use, notes, "**Little Whitewater Creek**," as "**Little Whitewater River**."

Douglass, Robert Sidney. History of Southeast Missouri, 1912.

"The rest of this district is drained principally by streams flowing to the south, the easternmost of these are Castor and **Whitewater** both of which have their origin in St. Francois county flowing toward the south and uniting to form Little river in New Madrid county."

"In the neighborhood of Allenville, Crooked creek and **Whitewater river** combine and the stream thus formed is called **Whitewater** until it receives the waters of Caney creek and the east Fork after which it takes the name Little river."

Goodspeeds History of Southeast Missouri, 1888. Washington, D.C., The Goodspeed Publishing Company.

"The town of **Whitewater** is situated on the Belmont branch of the Iron Mountain Railroad in Cape Girardeau county."

"Burfordville is on **Whitewater river** near the site of Bollinger's mill."

"**Whitewater township** . . ."

Houck, Louis. A History of Missouri: From The Earliest Explorations And Settlements Until The Admission Of The State Into The Union, 1908

R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company, Chicago.

"Any other crossing between west and southwest would have involved his (DeSoto's) army in lagoons and the deep and wide channel of **White**

**river**, which forms a barrier of about one hundred and fifty miles toward the south." (Please note Houck separated the word Whitewater and river.)

Index Map Of The Little River Drainage District And Adjacent Territory,  
Isaac A. Smith, Del. Sheet 1, August 1926. Drawing Number 1665, Index 107.32, File K-3.

Topographical map of ditch numbers, county, range and townships involved in the Little River Drainage District. This map identifies the waterway as the **"White Water River,"** three separate words. **Oddly, the eastern bifurcation of the waterway is identified as the main channel. Two years earlier, in 1924, the western bifurcation is (and to date) identified as the main channel serves as the border between Scott and Stoddard counties.**

Indirect Deed Index, Book 1, pages 147 & 148. Recorder of Deeds Office, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri.

Joseph Rogers sells to Henry Bollinger, the son of Philip, 640 acres of land on the ". . . **west fork of the White Water** German Township . . ." 14 August 1821.

Indirect Deed Index, Book 1. Page 434. Recorder of Deeds Office, Cape Girardeau, County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri.

Certificate No. 441 states Joseph Baker purchased 138 acres of land in Township 32, Range 1 in **1824**. This property is noted on a plot map which indicates that the **Whitewater River** dissects the land.

Jackson, Donald, editor. Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition with Related Documents 1783-1854, University of Illinois Press, Urbana 1962.

"... there are no settlements beyond the St. Francois river and I think it would be good policy to prohibit any settlement being made beyond it; the country between this river and **White river** which lies West of it, is said to be a delightful tract of land, and there appears to be no Indian claim to it . . ." As stated by Merriwether Lewis.

Major Operations Of Grant's Command, in Late 1861.

Waterway labeled as **"White Water River"** and **"White Water."**

Marmaduke's Expedition to Cape Girardeau, April 17 - May 2, 1863, Civil War Map.

Labeled **"White Water River,"** three separate words. Suffix designated as "river".

Missouri Atlas & Gazetteer. Yarmouth, Maine. DeLorme, 1998.

This topographical map of the state of Missouri utilizes  
**Whitewater River** and the **Little Whitewater Creek**.

Missouri: Official Highway Map 1999-2000. Missouri Department of Transportation.

The main waterway is labeled, "**Whitewater River.**"

Oxford English Dictionary, The, Second Edition, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1989.

Creek: "As part of a river or river-system. An inlet or short arm of a river, such as runs up into the widened mouth of a ditch or small stream, or fills any short ravine or cutting that joins the river. A branch of a main river, a tributary river; a rivulet, brook, small stream, or run."

Brook: "A small stream, rivulet."

River: "A copious stream of water flowing in a channel towards the sea, a lake, or another stream."

Copious: "Furnished plentifully with anything existing in abundance; plentiful."

Plan For Drainage: The Little River Drainage District, 1907.

A written proposal for the Little River Drainage Project. This document utilizes the name, "**Whitewater River.**"

Plat Book of Perry County, Missouri. Published for Perry County, Missouri, 1964. Missouri State Highway Department.

This book compiled by the Missouri Highway Department identifies all public roads and homeowners in Perry county. The waterway is identified as  
**"Whitewater River."**

River Classifications, U.S. Government, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, 1998.

River classification systems and identification from the Bureau of Land Management. The easiest classification of a *river* per the International River Classification System states "... **waves small; passages clear; no serious obstacles.**"

Shrum, Edison. The History of Scott County, Missouri: Up To The Year 1880. Scott County Historical Society.

"When the early settlers selected these sites for their homes, this ridge was one of the few high and dry areas in the southern half of what was to become Scott County. On the west, the ridge was bordered by Lake St. Mary; and beyond it there was a great

swamp across which meandered Caney Creek, the east Fork of **Whitewater River**, the **Whitewater** itself, and below the junction of the latter two, what sometimes was called James River."

Southeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission: Future Land Use Plan, September 4, 1986, exhibit #71.

This future land use proposal dated 1986 identifies the watercourse in sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 south of present day Allenville, Missouri, as the **"Whitewater River."**

Survey of Township 29, Range 11, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. Surveyor, Jenifer Sprigg. September, 1826.

Township 29 is the most southwestern part of Cape Girardeau County and is bordered on the south by Stoddard, on the west by Bollinger County. The waterway is clearly labeled as **"Part of the White Water."**

Survey Map of Township 29, Range 12. Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. Surveyor, Silas Reed. August 26, 1842.

This township adjoins Range 11 on the eastern side. To the south it borders present day Scott County. This map clearly shows the original "White Water" which divides into the **"East Branch of the White Water"** and the **"West Branch of the White Water."**

Survey of Township 31, Range 11, Sections 26 & 25, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. April 25, 1844.

This survey map is of the waterway directly below the Burfordville Bridge and Bollinger Mill known today as the Whitewater River. This survey map done by Silas Reed labels the waterway as **"White Water Creek."**

Survey of Township 30, Range 11, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri. Surveyor, M. Lewis Clark, Surveyor General, December, 1852.

This survey map indicates that along the eastern portion of this township the waterway is labeled **"White Water Creek."**

Survey of Township 32, Range 11, Mapping Division, Cape Girardeau County Courthouse, Jackson, Missouri, 63755. Surveyor, M. Lewis Clark, Surveyor General. December, 1852.

The larger waterway is clearly labeled **"White Water Creek."** The smaller branch is labeled **"Little White Water Creek."** In both circumstances the word

"White" and "Water" are separate.

Survey of Townships 34 N, Ranges 8-9 E, Mapping Division, Perry County Courthouse, Perryville, Missouri, 63775, 1915.

This survey map clearly identifies the waterway in question, but it is not labeled.

Survey No. 1459, Township 34 N, Range 9 E, Perry County, Missouri.

Recorder of Deeds Office, Perry County Courthouse, Perryville, Missouri, 63775. Thomas H. Layton, County Surveyor, November 26, 1886.

This survey map contains original field notes and scale drawing, but the waterway is not identified.

Survey No. 1488, Township 34 N, Range 8 E, Perry County, Missouri.

Recorder of Deeds Office, Perry County Courthouse, Perryville, Missouri, 63775. Thomas H. Layton, County Surveyor, dated February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 1888.

This survey map contains original field notes and scale drawing. The waterway is clearly identified as "**White Water Creek**," three separate words.

Survey No. 1495, Township 34 N, Range 9 E, Perry County, Missouri.

Recorder of Deeds Office, Perry County Courthouse, Perryville, Missouri, 63775. Thomas H. Layton, County Surveyor, May 23, 1888.

This survey map contains original field notes and scale drawing. It clearly identifies the waterway as "**White Water Creek**," three separate words.

Survey Field Notes of Present Bollinger County, Missouri, Volume 217, page 79, 80, and 81. February, 1818.

Page 79 of the field survey notes identifies the waterway as a "**brook**."

Page 80 of the field survey notes identifies the waterway as "**W. Water**."

Page 81 of the field survey notes identifies the waterway as "**White Water**," two separate words (no clarification of creek vs. river).

1880 Rand, McNally & Company's Indexed Atlas Of The World, page 708, Missouri.

Page 708, map of Missouri, clearly identifies the community as "**White Water**" and the waterway in question as "**White Water River**."

1924 Little River Drainage District Topographical Maps.

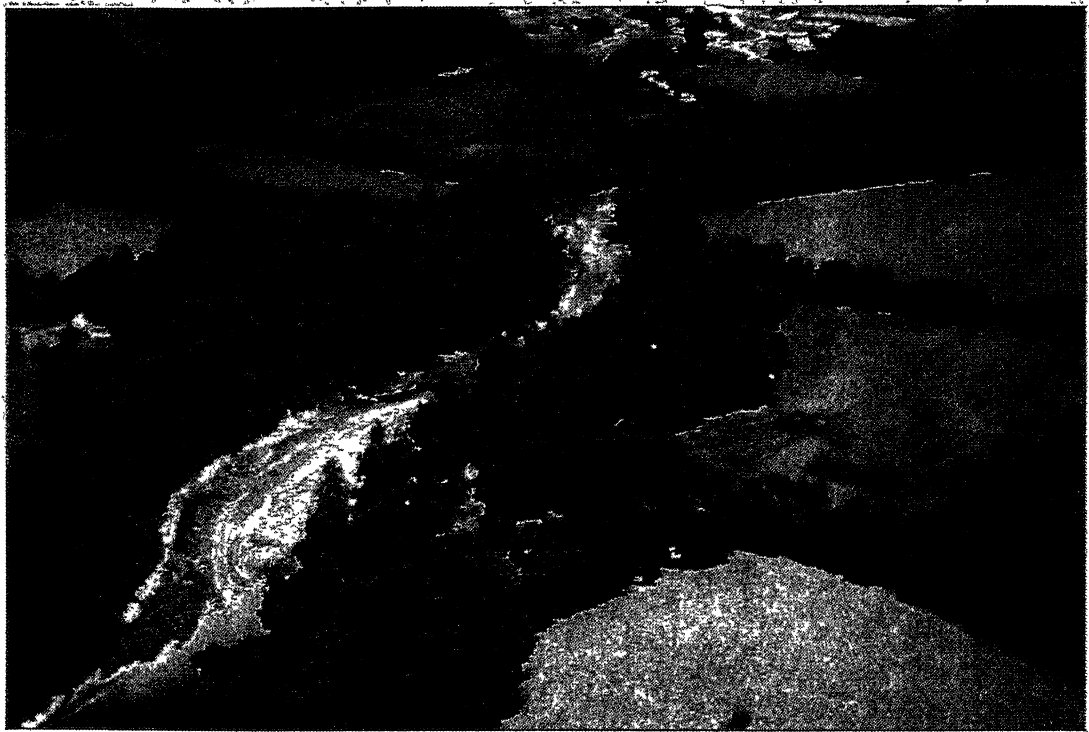
A series of topographical maps labeling natural waterways, drainage ditches, their location and relevant bridges. The term "**Whitewater River**" is used throughout the collection. The western bifurcation of the Whitewater is noted as the main waterway and the eastern labeled as the "**Eastern Branch of the**

**Whitewater River."**

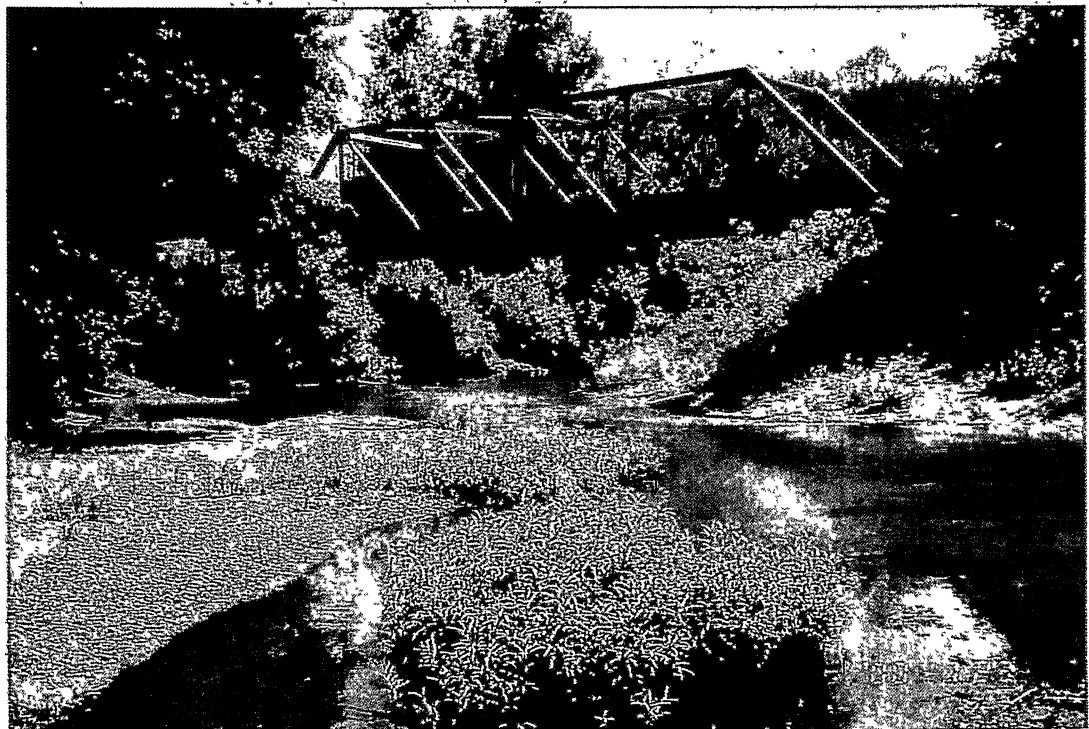
1964 Topography Map, Missouri State Highway Department, Division of Highway Planning, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads.

This document uses the name "**White Water River.**" Three separate words.

1994 Perry County, Missouri Range and Township Map. Zahner & Associates.  
Waterway not identified by name.



The Whitewater River/Creek south of Yount, in Perry County, Missouri.



The Whitewater River/Creek west of Millersville in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri.

# **Supporting Materials**



North Between Sides 9 & 10 T 31 N R 11 E  
 ch ch

21.61 a W oak 22 in d

40.00 Set 1/4 s post from which a W oak  
 18 in d to N 79 W 48 lks & a Walnut  
 15 in di to S 73 E 50 lks

76.71 a Brook 18 lks W n S E

80.00 Set a post come to Sides 3, 4, 9 & 10  
 T 31 N R 11 E from which a B o k 15 in  
 di to S 55 E 19 lks & n do 20 n to  
 N 78 W 47 lks Land & with same as East  
 Described

old Cape Girardeau  
 County - current  
 Bollinger County  
 land survey

Feb 1818

Bollinger Co, Mo.

vol 217 pg 79

East Between Sects 3 & 10 T 31 N R 11 E

40 00 Set a temporary 1/4 S post

41 50 W Water 200 ft. out

old Cape Girardeau  
County - current  
Bollinger County  
land survey

Feb 1818

Survey in 1818 by J. H. Smith

Only a small part of the survey is shown here.

North Between Sects 3 & 4 T 31 N R 11 E.

51 a W oak 25 in di

Set  $\frac{1}{4}$  S post from which a gum

18 in di to N 62 W 23 lks & a mulberry

10 in di to S 31 E 22 lks.

35-79 an Elm 14 in di

101-40 White Water 75 lks to S E.

102-66 Int the Township line 31 lks West of  
the corner Set a post cor. to Sects

3 & 4 T 31 N R 11 E from which a maple

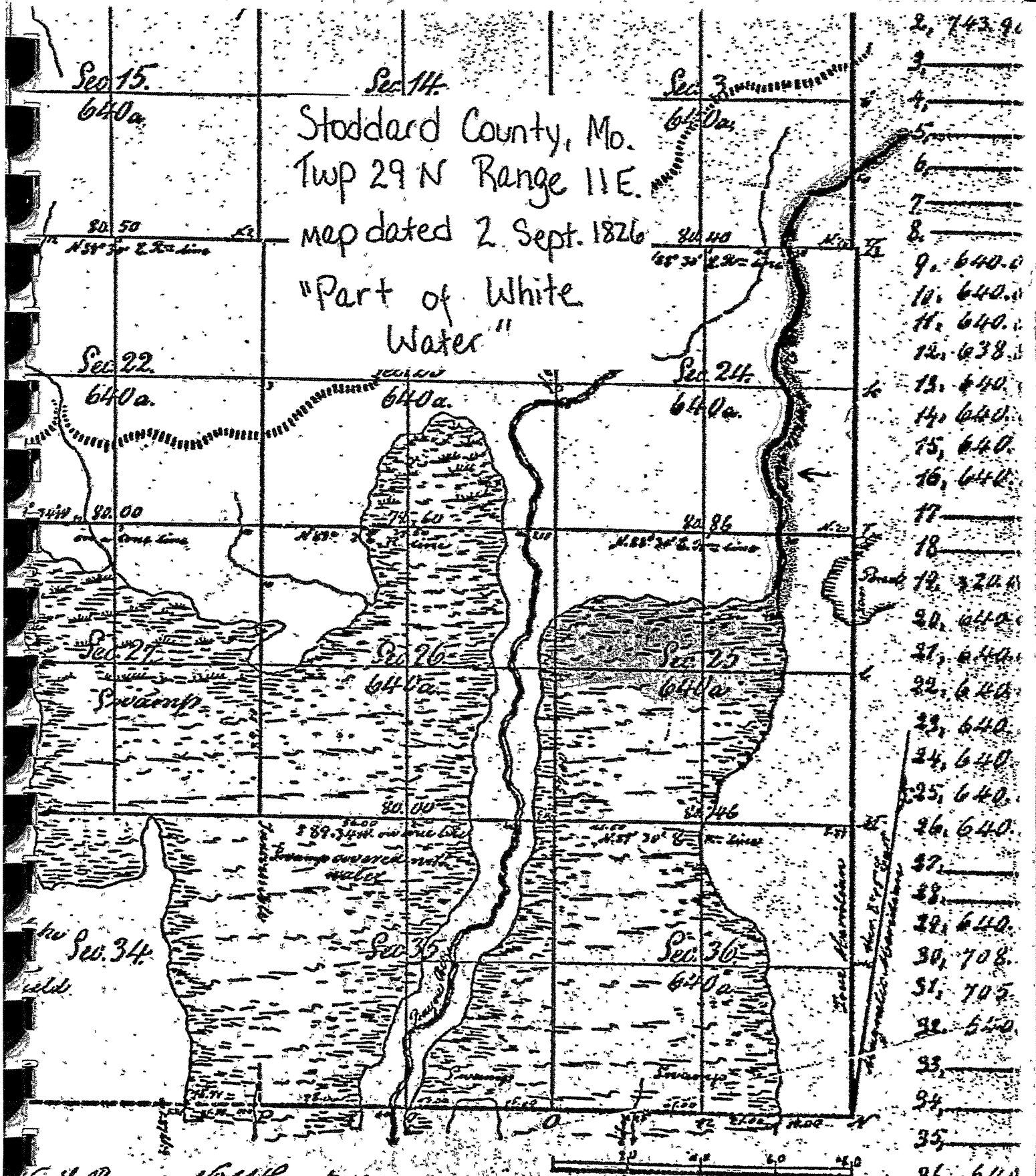
12 in di to S 24 E 40 lks & a Box Elder

14 in di to S 35 W 28 lks

Land well good Soil fit for  
cult. grows oak & hickory

old Cape Girardeau  
County - current  
Bollinger County  
land survey

Feb 1818



2,	743.96
3,	_____
4,	_____
5,	_____
6,	_____
7,	_____
8,	_____
9,	640.0
10,	640.0
11,	640.0
12,	638.0
13,	640.0
14,	640.0
15,	640.0
16,	640.0
17,	_____
18,	_____
19,	320.0
20,	640.0
21,	640.0
22,	640.0
23,	640.0
24,	640.0
25,	640.0
26,	640.0
27,	_____
28,	_____
29,	640.0
30,	708.0
31,	705.0
32,	540.0
33,	_____
34,	_____
35,	_____
36,	640.0
14377.	

Registered

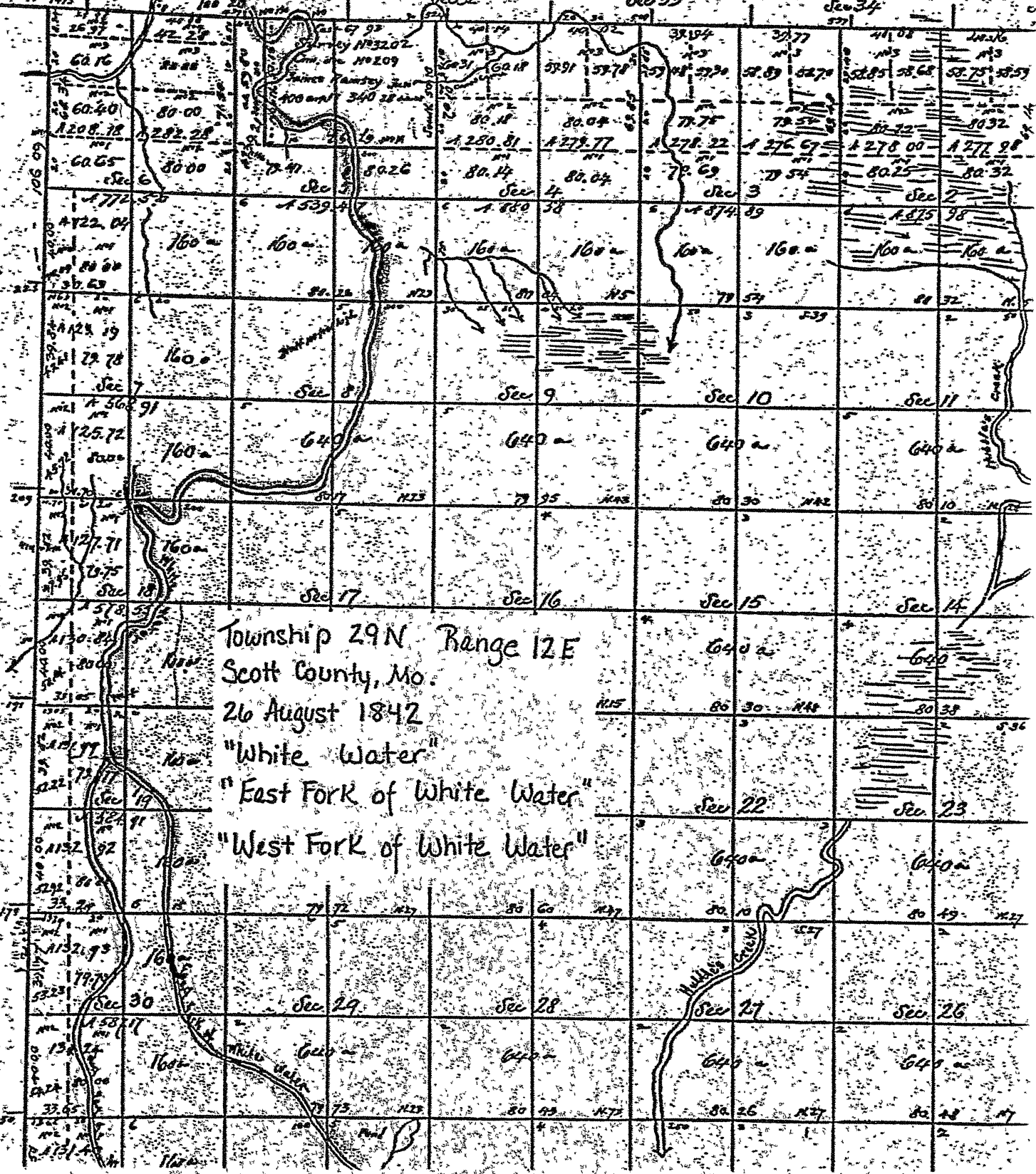
North Range No 11 East of  
file in this Office. - The  
East boundary  
under his contract



A B C D E

Range 12 E

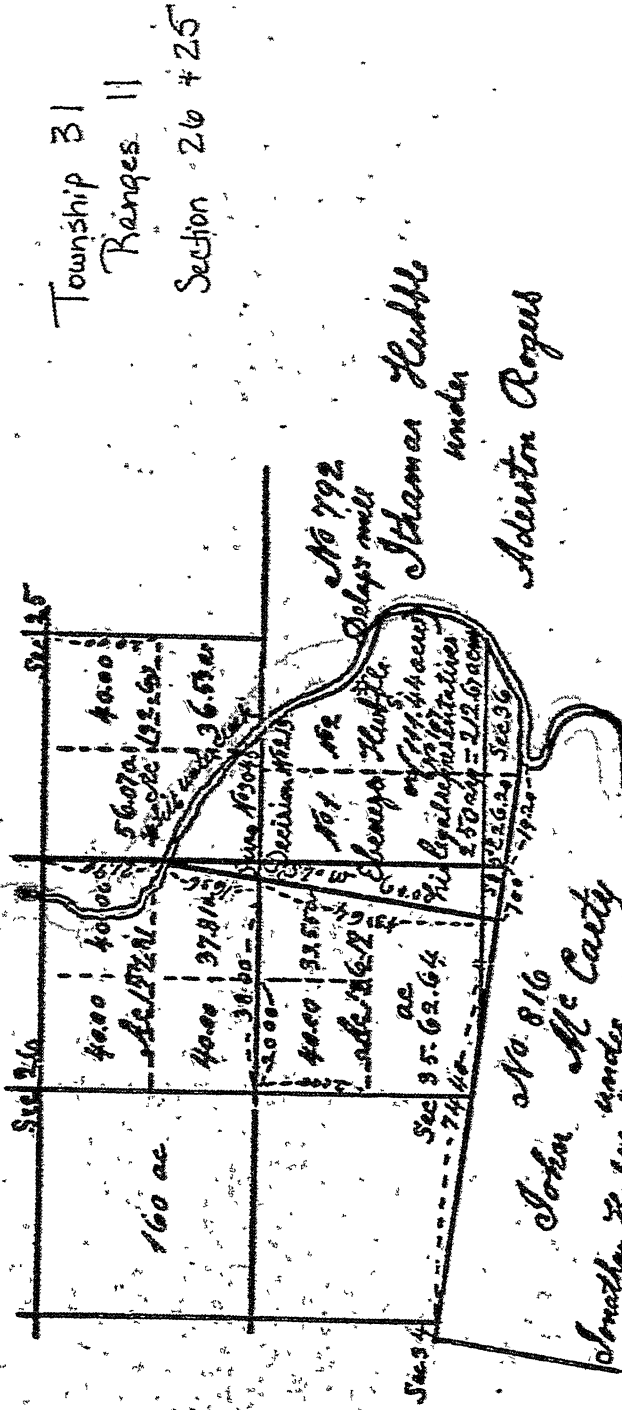
Red  
Line



Rec. with Sur. Genl letter of 25 April 1844

25 31 N. R. 11 E of the 5th pl. Mo.

x Bollinger Mill



Scale of 40 chains to an inch

The 5/32 of Sec 25, 9 E 1/4 of Sect 26, and the 2/3 of Sect 35 made prominent by Reubens survey were 200 divided in this way under the law of 1832. — and a copy of this plat sent to the Register on the 25th of April 1844.

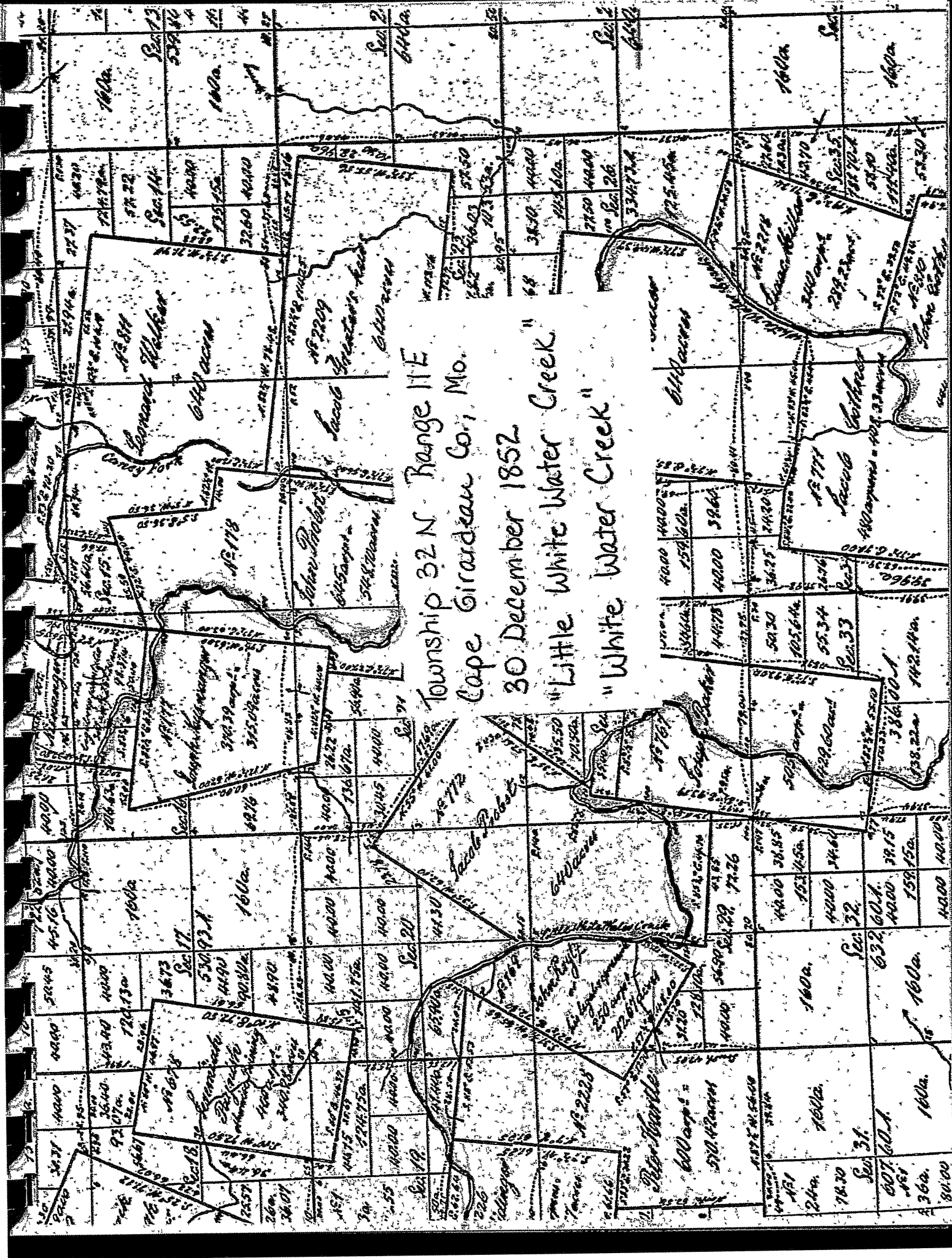
The tract within Survey No 3045, with the area set down in brackets, is that sold prior to the 14th July 1836 to certificate of new location No 27 was made on the 4th of July 1836.

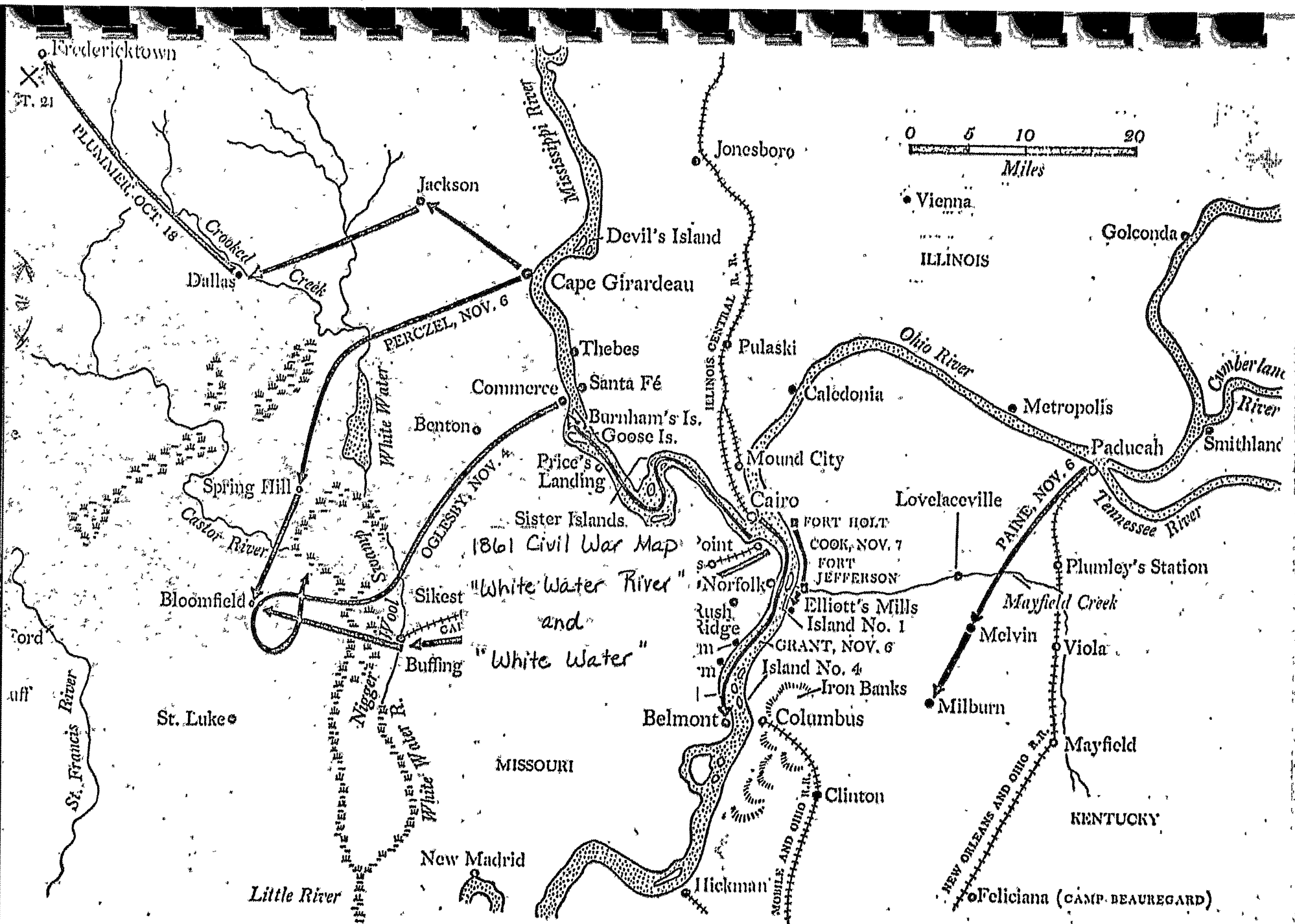
veyors office

Saint Louis 25 of April 1844

one plot of the S W fractional quarter of Sec 25, of the S E fractional quarter of Section 26, of the East fractional quarter of T 31 N R 11 E of the 5th principal Meridian and of Survey No 3045 of 250 acres confirmed by the act of Congress of the 11th of July 1836.

Township 32 N Range 11 E  
Cape Girardeau Co., Mo.  
30 December 1852  
"Little White Water Creek"  
"White Water Creek"



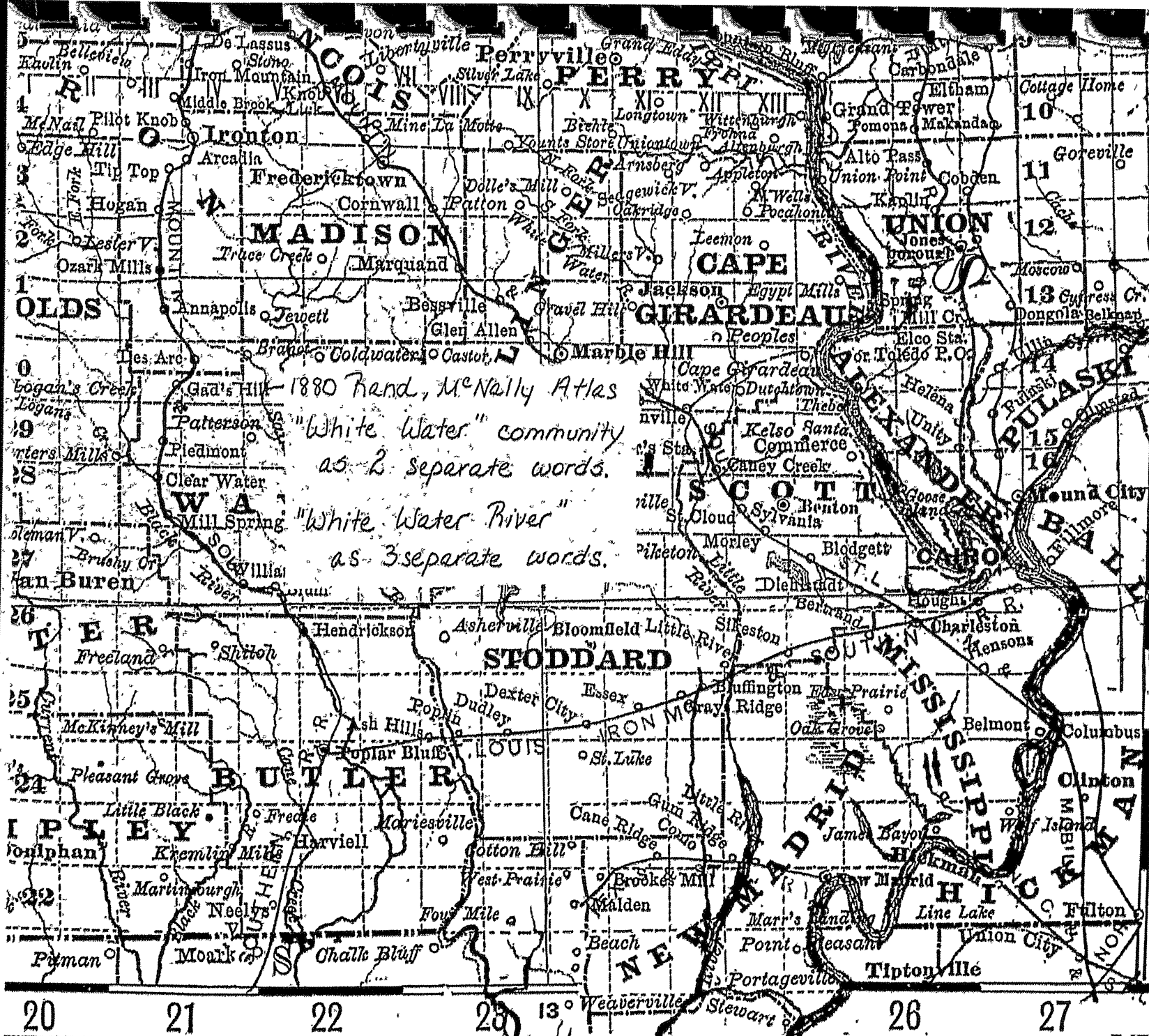






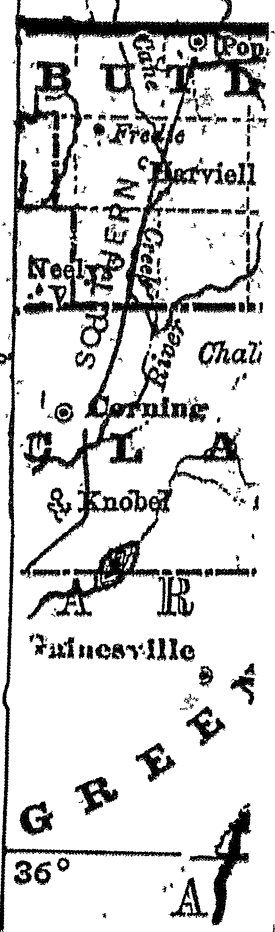
1863 Civil War  
Map  
"White Water  
River"

MARMADUKE'S EXPEDITION TO CAPE  
GIRARDEAU. APRIL 17-MAY 2, 1863



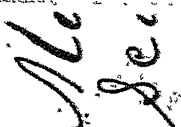
1880 Rand, McNally Atlas  
"White Water" community  
as 2 separate words.  
"White Water River"  
as 3 separate words.

per cent.  
due to th  
able to tl





Dei



Missouri

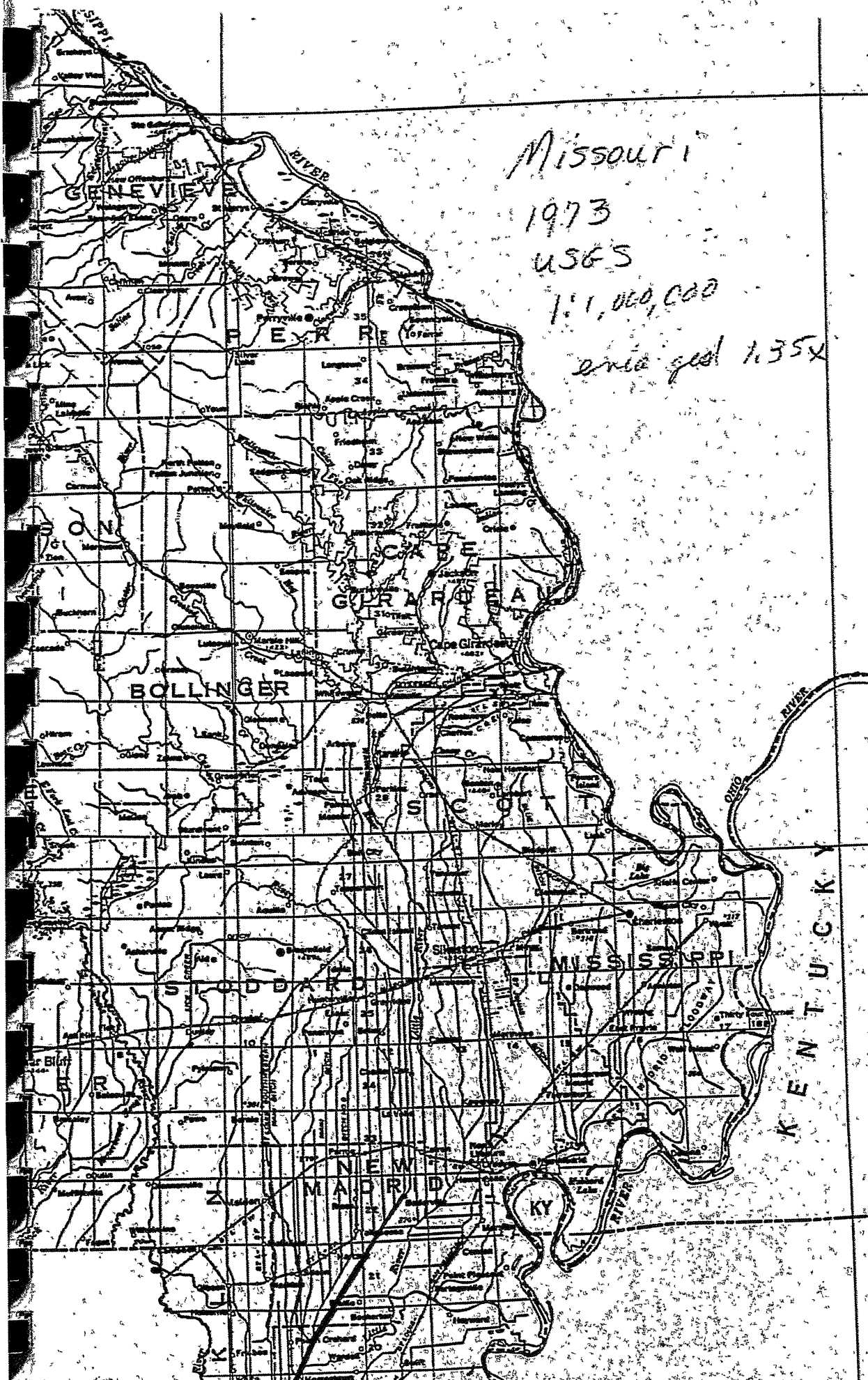
# Land Survey

White Water Creek

23. May 1888

(5220)

Thomas H. Layton, County Surveyor writes.  
of Perry in the State of Mo. as follows: That the Abv.  
of 1495 is a true plat of a Survey made by me for J.  
and I have the



Missouri

1973

USGS

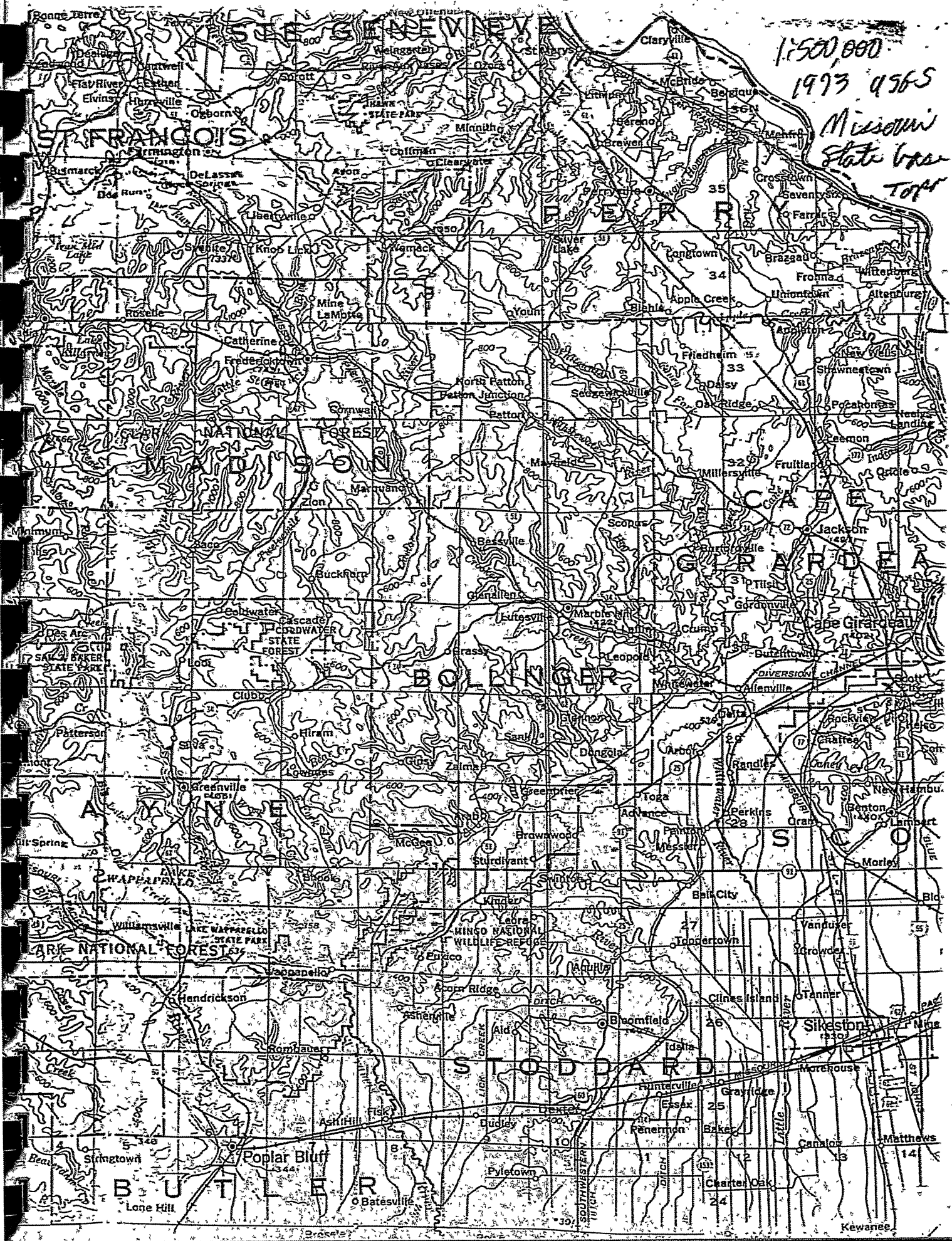
1:1,000,000

area 1.35x





T E N N E S S E E

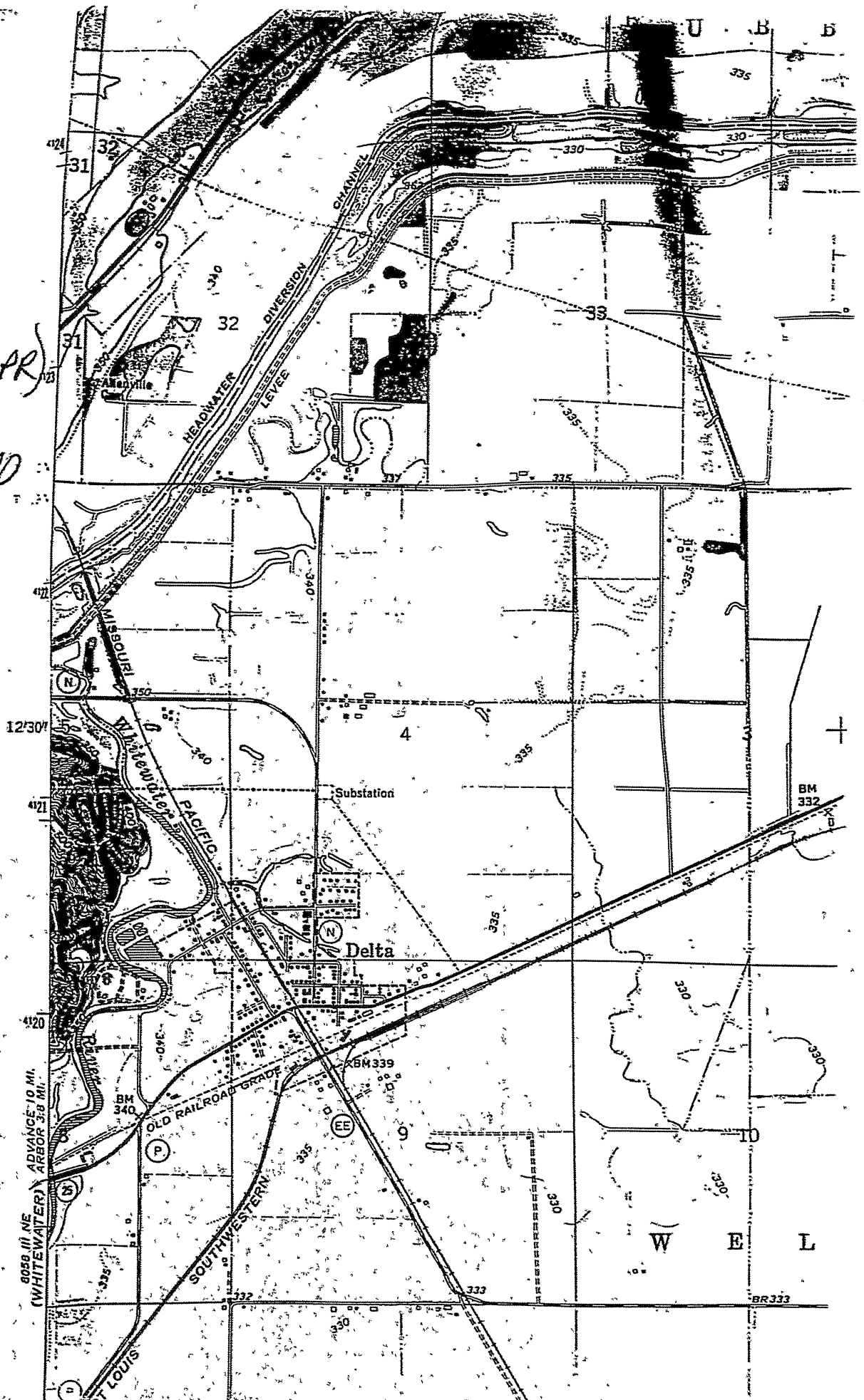


1:500,000  
1973 4565  
Missouri  
State Map  
TOP

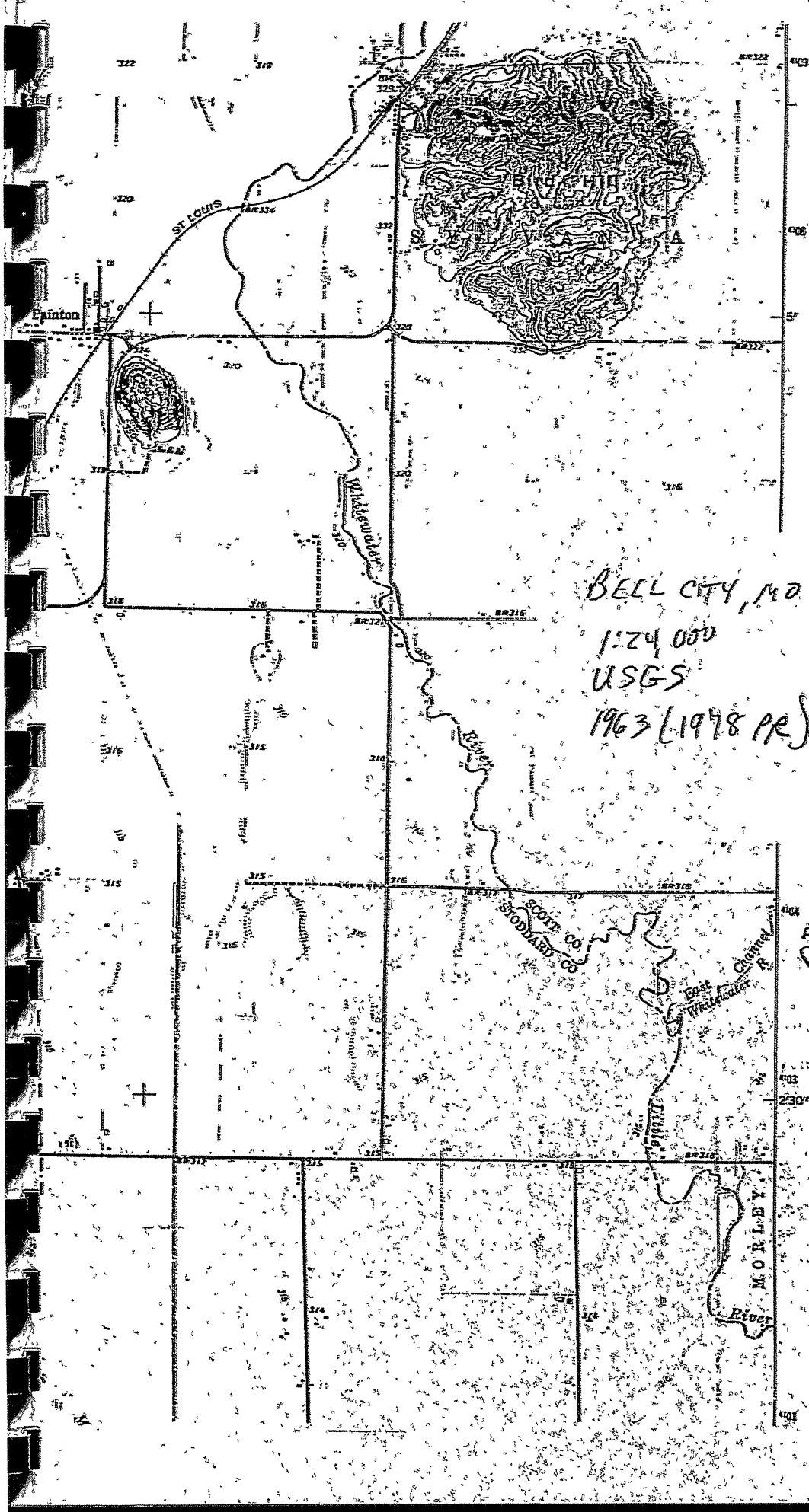
1963 (1978 PR)

Chaffee, MO  
HSGS

1:24,000







BELL CITY, MO

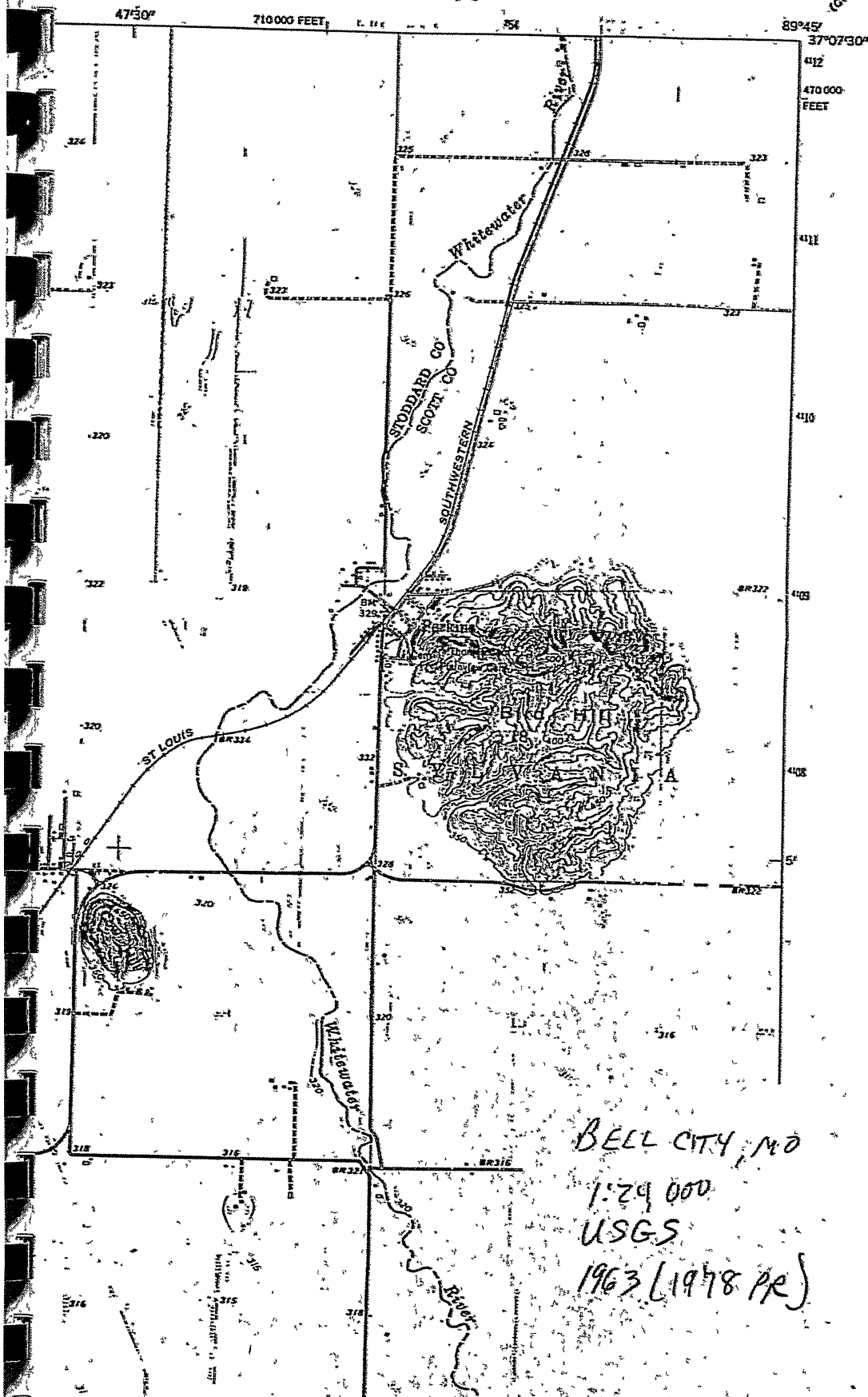
1:24,000

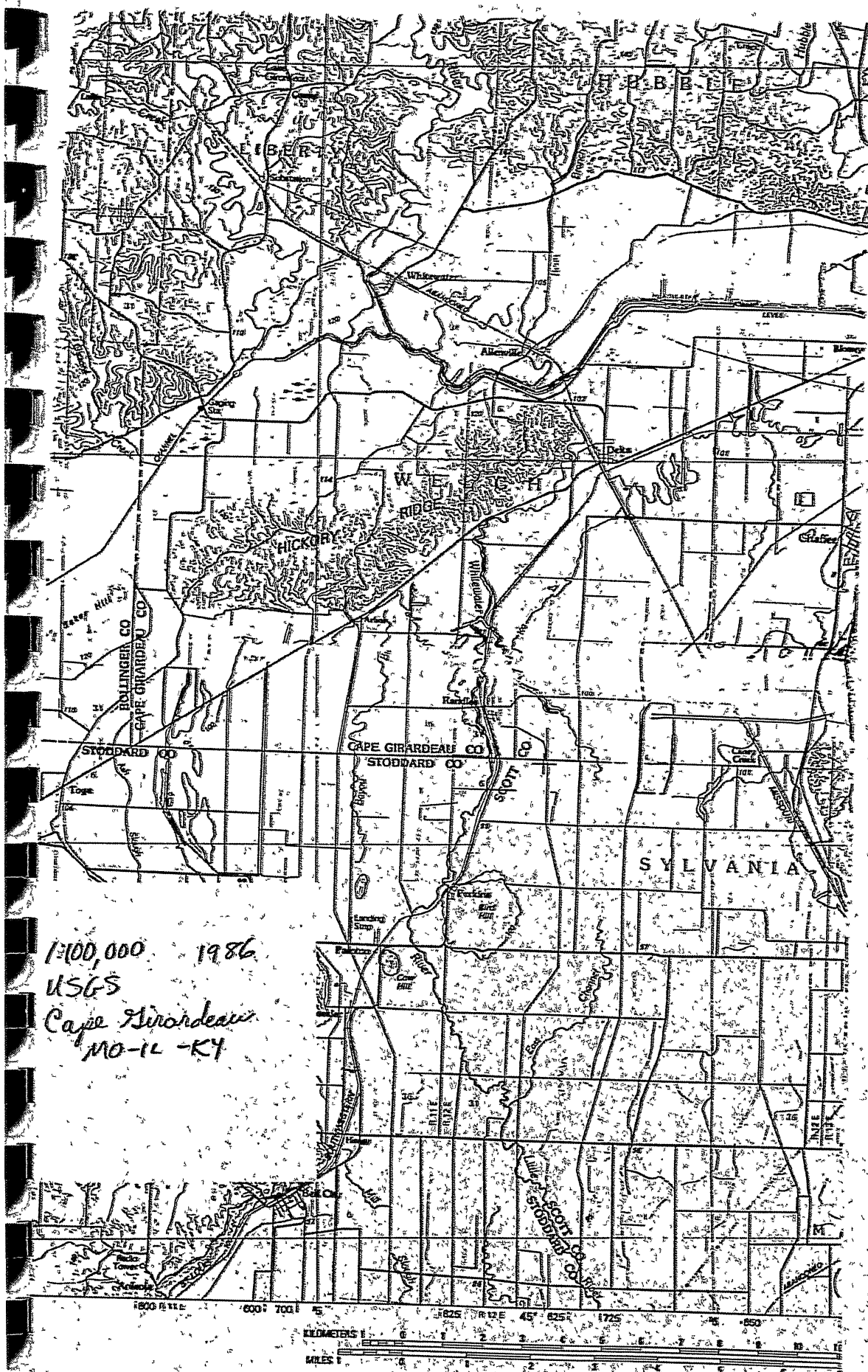
USGS

1963 (1978 PR)

07m

228 11 NYW  
(GAFFER)





1:100,000 1986  
USGS  
Cape Girardeau  
MO-IL-KY

# NOIS-KENTUCKY

15 800

800,000 FEET (ILL. MILE) 700 825

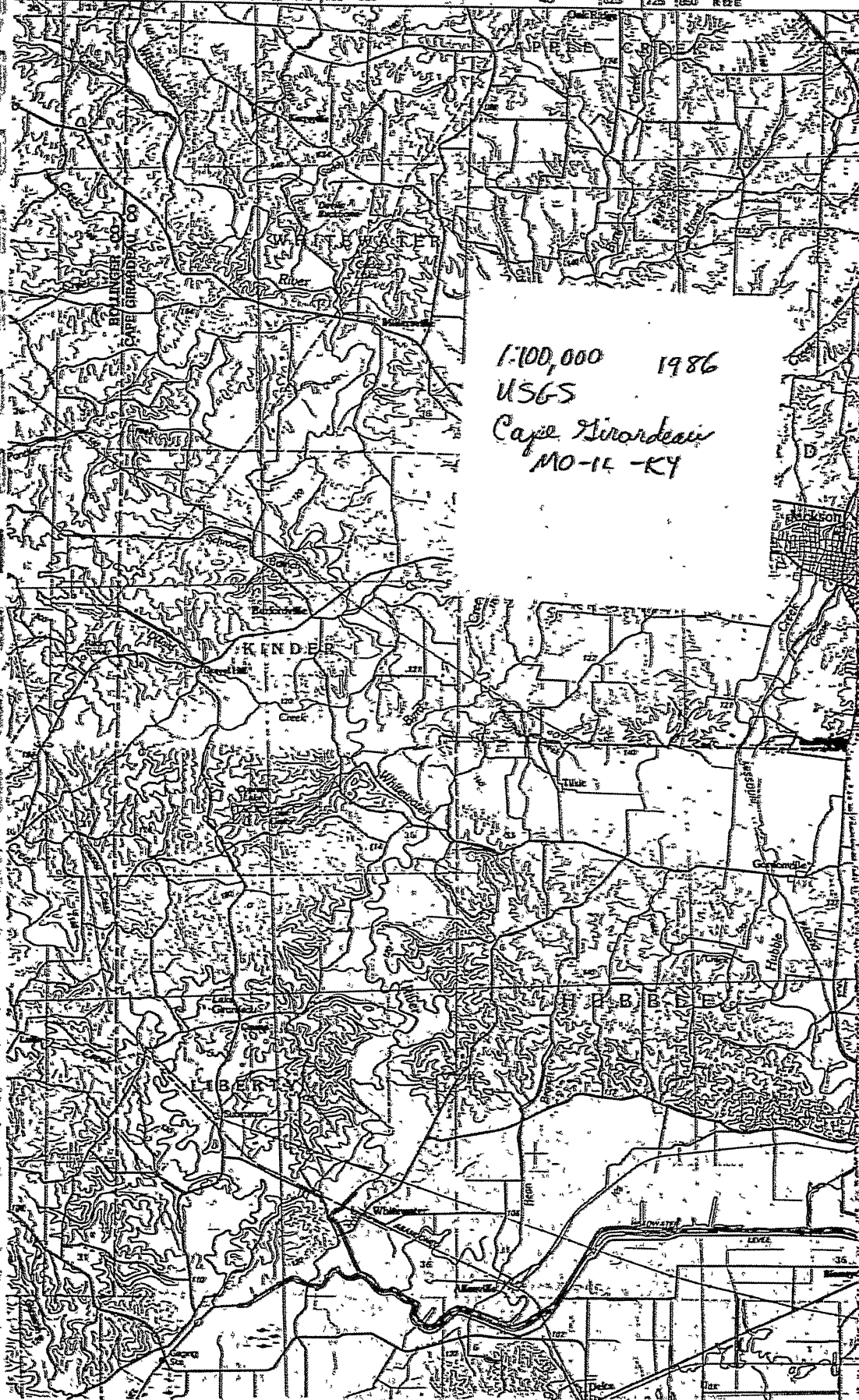
45

625

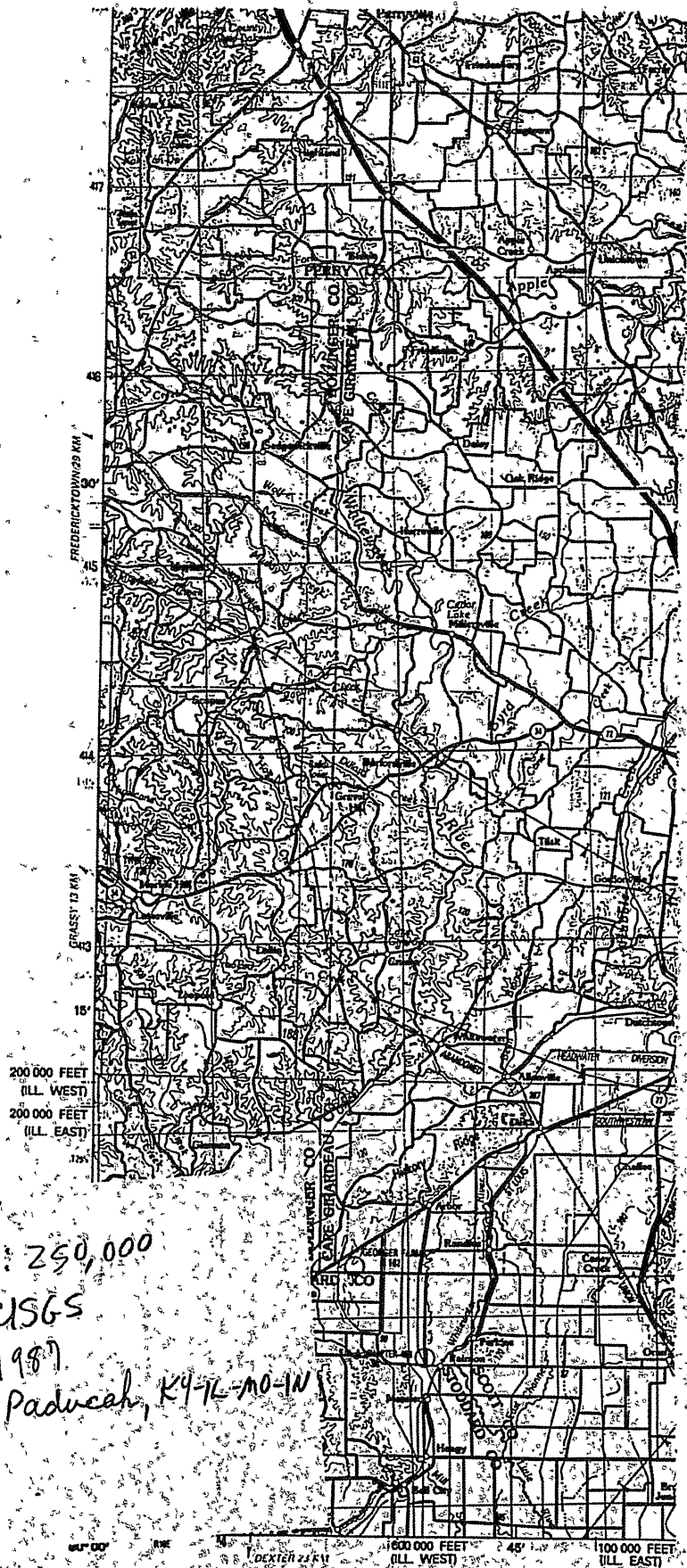
725

850

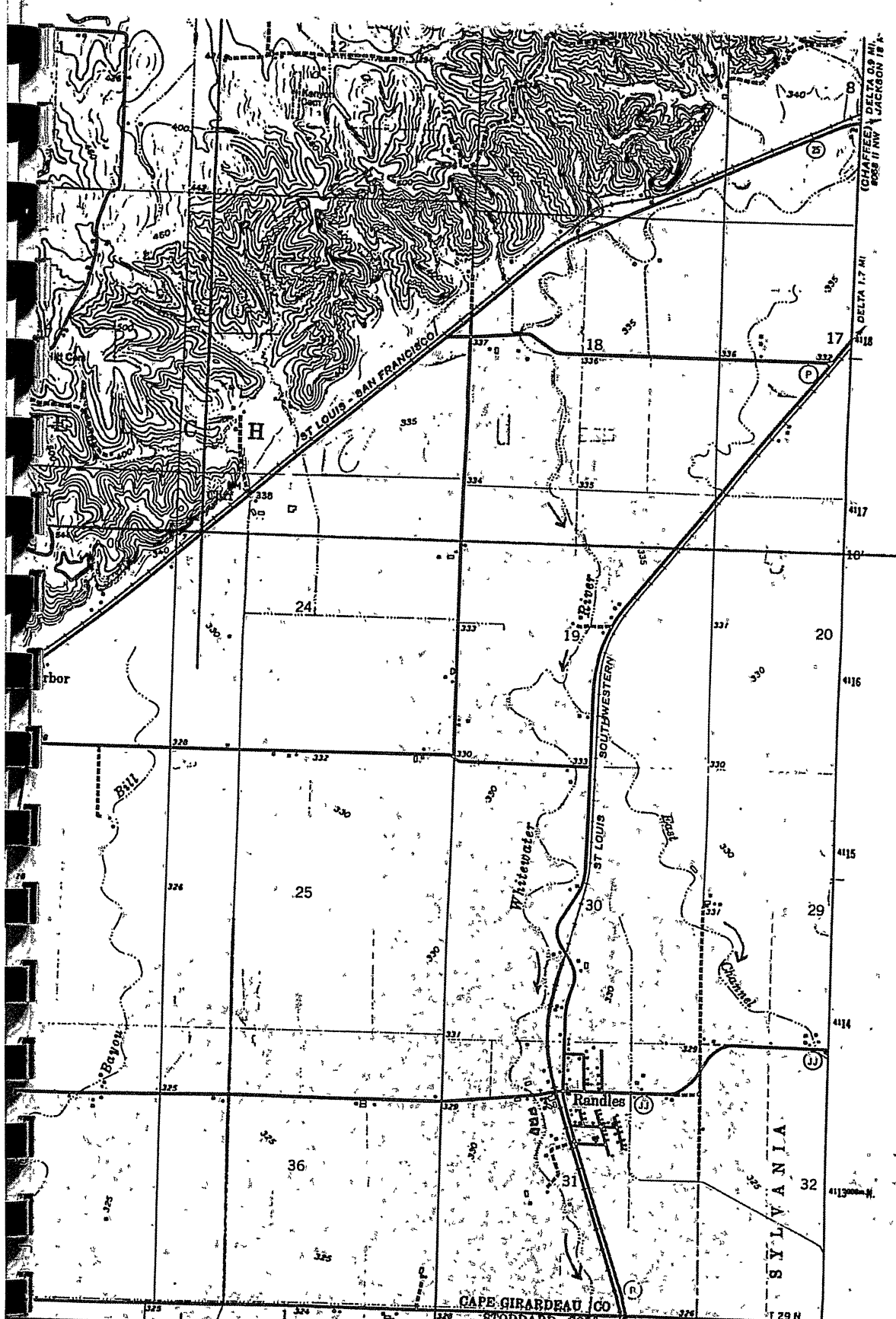
R 22 E



1:100,000 1986  
USGS  
Cape Girardeau  
MO-IL-KY



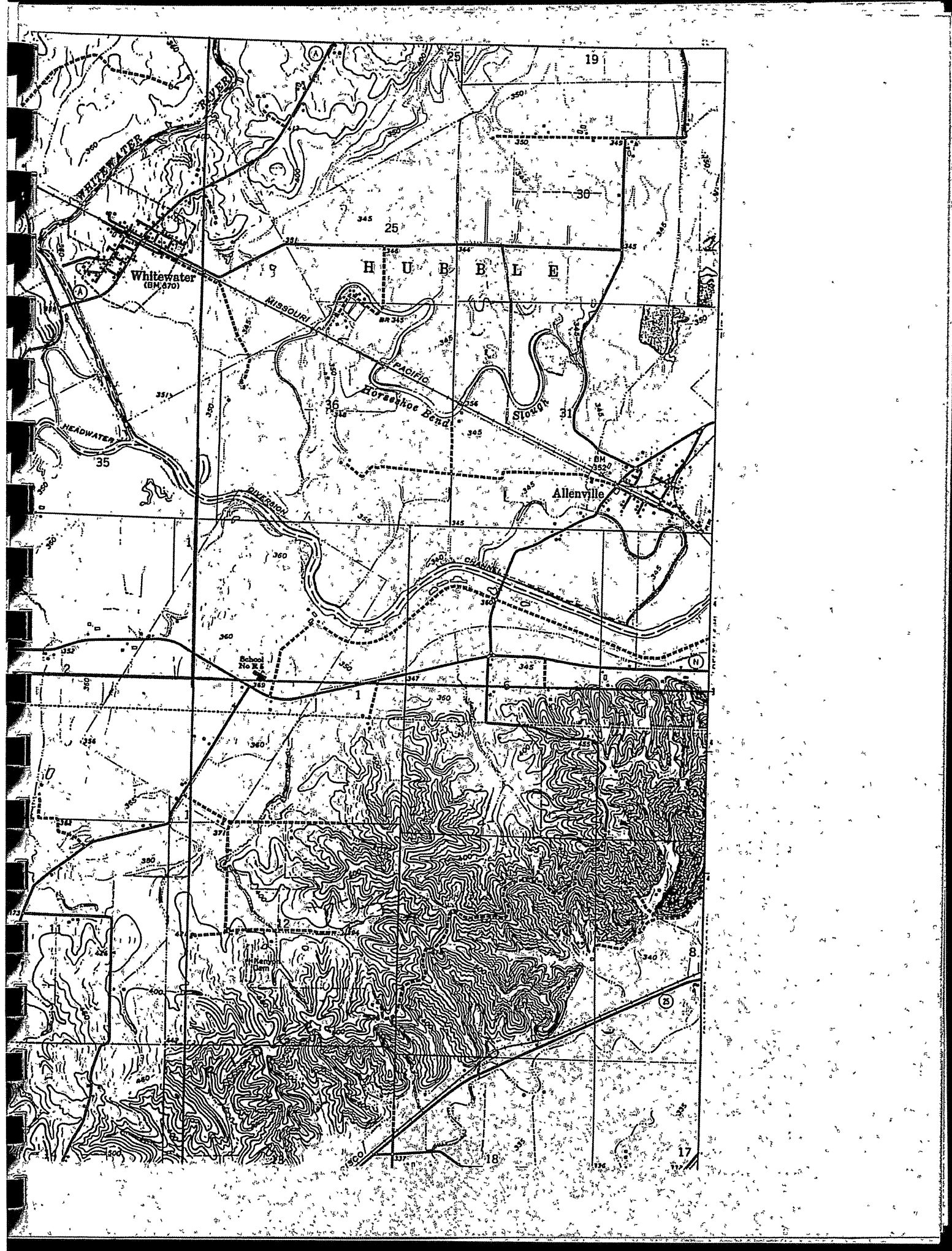




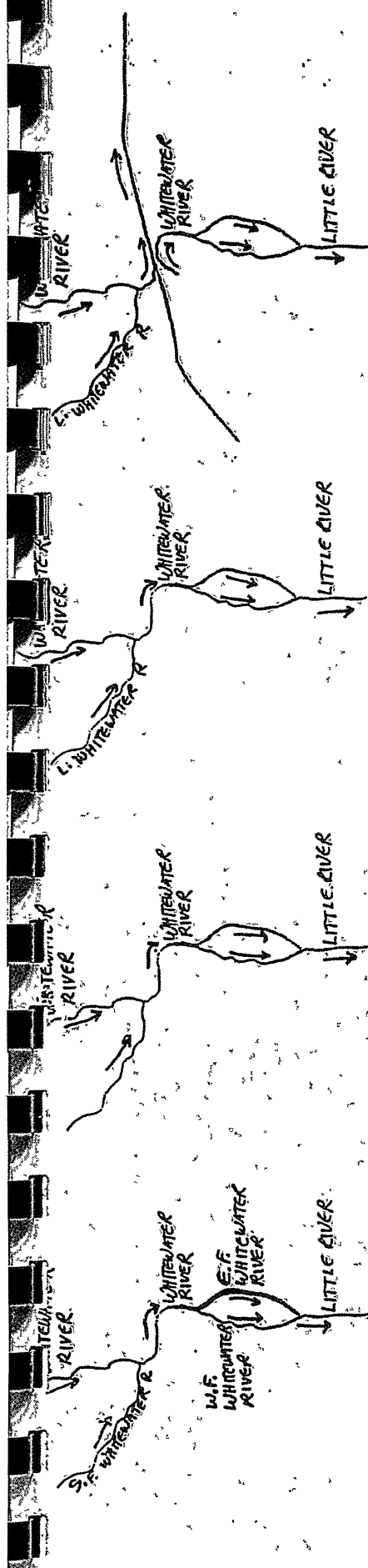
1963 USGS 1:24K  
Whitewater, MO

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy duty Light duty

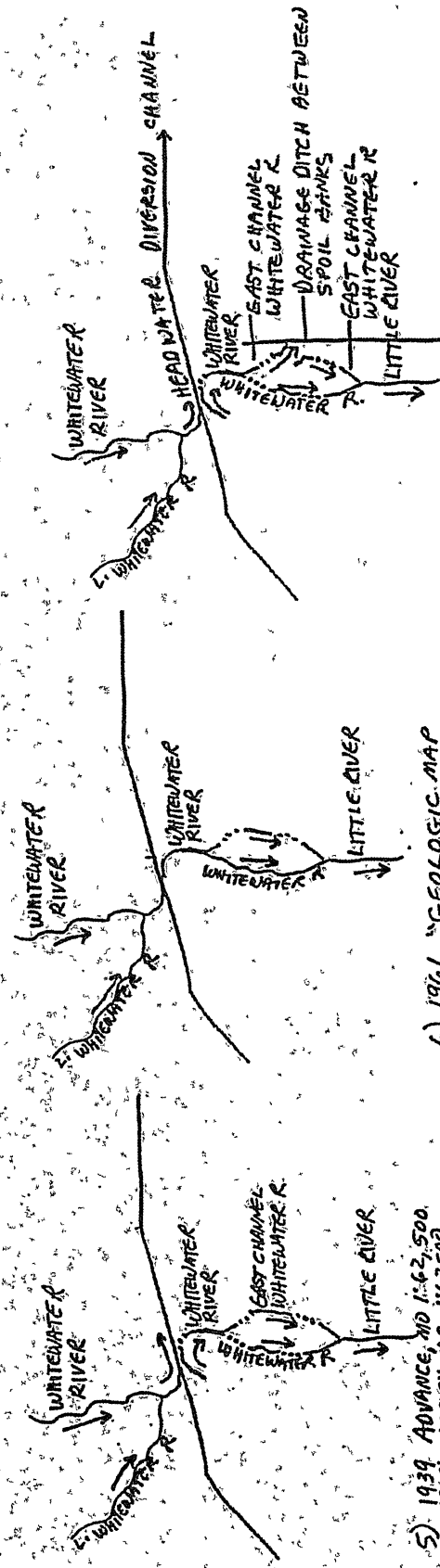
CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY



# HISTORY OF WHITEWATER RIVER DRAINAGE SYSTEMS AS DEPICTED ON MISSOURI MAPS



- 1) 1860 "A NEW SECTIONAL MAP OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI" 1" = 10 MILES
- 2) 1907 "GEOLOGIC MAP OF MISSOURI" 1" = 10 MILES
- 3) 1922 "GEOLOGIC MAP OF MISSOURI" 1" = 10 MILES
- 4) 1939 "GEOLOGIC MAP OF MISSOURI" 1" = 10 MILES



- 5) 1939 ADVANCE, MO 1:62,500  
1942 ADVANCE, MO 1:62,500  
1950 ADVANCE, MO 1:62,500
- 6) 1961 "GEOLOGIC MAP OF MISSOURI" 1:500,000
- 7) CURRENT USGS MAPS



From Page 1

ary War soldiers who are buried in Cape Girardeau County and other parts of Southeast Missouri migrated to the area in the 1800s. The Spanish government, which owned the land, was offering it to anyone who would settle here.

"It was actually before the Louisiana Purchase and the government was giving out free land," Pledger said. That attracted many people, including Gilliland's relatives who moved to the area and are buried in the cemetery.

Primarily the men were farmers "and had to be strong to live out here," said Wendell Miller, president of the local SAR chapter.

Laura Johnston may be contacted at 335-6611 ext. 126 or by e-mail at [ljohnston@semissourian.com](mailto:ljohnston@semissourian.com).

## Revolutionary War soldiers

The following is a list of the known burial places in Southeast Missouri of soldiers who fought during the American Revolution. The list was compiled by the Allen Laws Oliver Chapter of the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

■ Robert Brevard, born July 17, 1763, in Iredell County, N.C., and served in the North Carolina militia. He died Jan. 2, 1847, in Jackson, Mo., and is buried in the Old Jackson City Cemetery.

■ Uriah Brock, born about 1759 in Virginia and served in the First Virginia Artillery Continental Line. He died Nov. 15, 1845, in Cape Girardeau and is buried in Old Lorimer Cemetery.

■ Thomas English, born Oct. 13, 1751, in Virginia, served in the Virginia Continental Line. He died in 1836 in Cape Girardeau and is buried in the English Family Cemetery off Bloomfield Road.

■ Mitchell Fleming was born 1761 and died April 16, 1837, near New Wells. He is buried in

the Fleming Family Cemetery near New Wells. He received a Revolutionary War pension.

■ Charles Friend, born 1718 in Wales, Great Britain, and died in 1814 near Oran. He is buried in Friend Cemetery near Oran. He served as a captain during the war.

■ John Gilliland, born 1763 in North Carolina and died Jun 23, 1829, near Pocahontas. He served in the North Carolina State militia and is buried in Apple Creek Presbyterian Cemetery.

■ Christopher Hays, born 1738, was a colonel in the Pennsylvania State Militia from Westmoreland County. He died in 1808 near Fruitland and is buried in Ware Cemetery, which is now under the Interstate 55 southbound ramp at the Fruitland Interchange.

■ Ishimer Hubble, born 1762 in Newton, Conn. He served in the New York State Militia, Albany County. He is buried in Bethel Cemetery in Jackson.

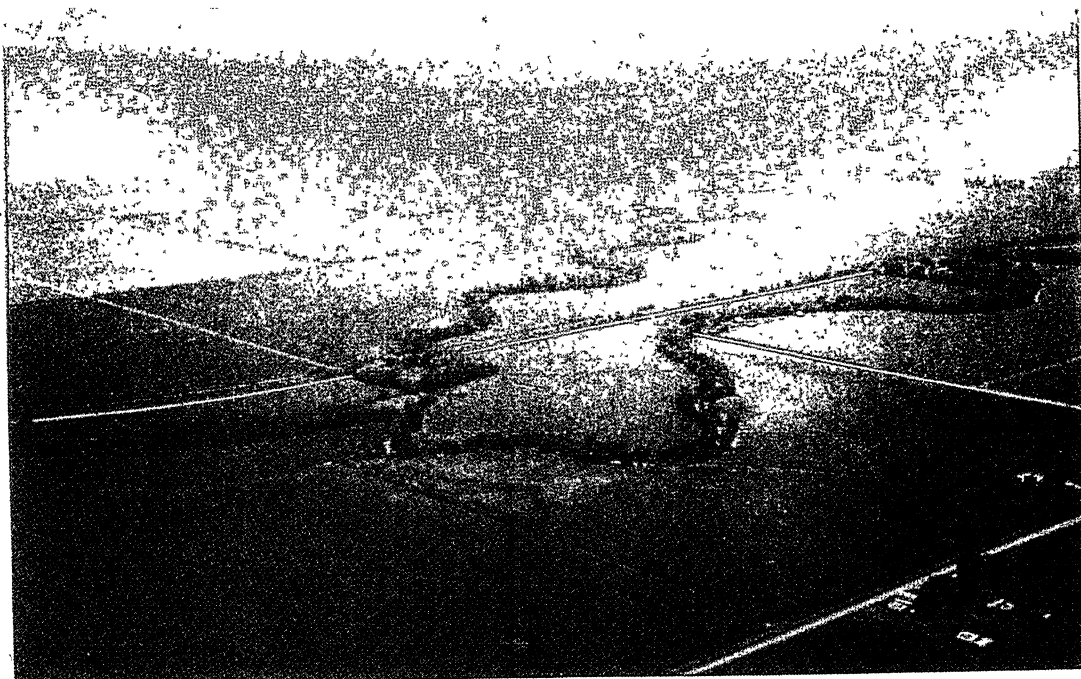
■ Joseph Hunter, born 1757, served in George Rodgers Clark's Virginia Regiment. He died in 1823 in Sikeston and is buried in the Hunter Family Cemetery.

■ John Manning was born in Maryland and died in Perry County, Mo. He is buried in the old seminary at Perryville. He served in the Third Maryland Regiment.

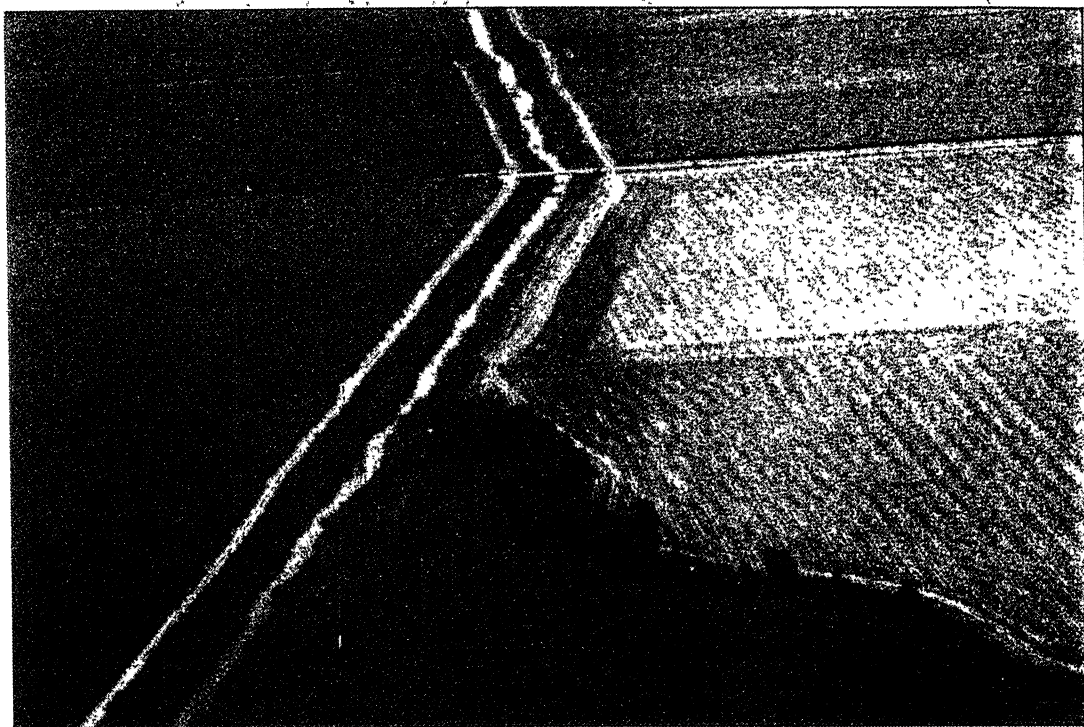
■ Alexander McLean (McClain) was born May 10, 1755, in Rowen County, N.C. He died near Pocahontas and is buried in the Apple Creek Presbyterian Cemetery. He served as a mounted rifleman in the North Carolina militia.

■ John Walker, born 1748 in Hampshire County, Va., also is buried in Apple Creek Presbyterian Cemetery. He served in the North Carolina militia and died Feb. 2, 1829, near Pocahontas.

■ Robert Yount was born in 1752 and died in 1818 near Patton. He is buried in a family cemetery near the Little Whitewater River near Patton.

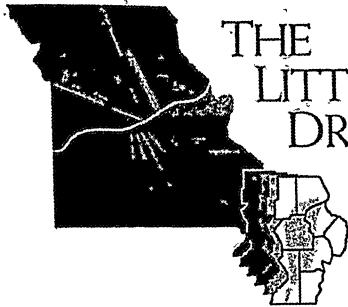


Eastern Channel and Western Channel of the Whitewater River/Creek as they converge to form the Little River south of the Diversion Channel.



Eastern Channel of the Whitewater River/Creek as it empties into a Little River Drainage District ditch.

# Appendices:



# THE LITTLE RIVER DRAINAGE DISTRICT

FLOOD CONTROL & DRAINAGE  
SINCE — 1907

September 12, 2000

Dr. Frank Nickell, Director  
Center of Regional History  
SEMO State University  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701

Dear Dr. Nickell:

Re: Whitewater River Designation

In my opinion and from records in our District files Whitewater River should have two (2) designations. Our District constructed the Headwater Diversion Channel beginning in 1910, which when completed severed <sup>(the)</sup> Whitewater River. The result was a river with upland runoff with high velocity and a river with a lowland runoff with very low velocity.

In light of that I believe a true designation of Whitewater River would be as follows:

1. Whitewater River (Upper) which would be that portion of the river from the Headwater Diversion Channel upstream to its terminus.
2. Whitewater River (Lower) which would be any portion of the River still distinguishable below the Headwater Diversion Channel.

Thanks for dropping by and visiting about this matter. The information you shared was quite interesting.

If I can be of further assistance please feel free to call upon me.

Yours,

Larry D. Dowdy

LDD:ln

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Vic Downing, Vice-President  
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James L. Fletcher, Gideon, MO

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Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

H. Riley Bock  
Attorney, New Madrid, MO

## HONORARY SUPERVISOR

E.B. Gee, Jr.  
Blytheville, AR

Ed. Note: Changed with permission of Mr. Dowdy, 13 September, 2000.

Loretta P. Crites  
227 Church Street  
Whitewater, Missouri 63785

September 14, 2000

Dr. Frank Nickell, Director  
Center for Regional History  
Southeast Missouri State University  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701

Subject: Whitewater Creek/River

Dear Dr. Nickell:

I am 85 years old and have lived in Whitewater all of my life, except for about four years in the 1940's. There is a river (or creek) which flows outside of our town. When I was growing up, everyone called it the creek. I was 13 years old when I was baptized "in the creek." That's how I remember people referring to it. When they talked about being baptized or going fishing or swimming, it was "in the creek."

Many years later, in the 1960's, I believe, the Highway Department or some other agency placed a sign at the bridge, which read "Whitewater River." It took a while to get used to, but eventually I started calling it the river as well. However, in my childhood and young adult years I always knew it as "the creek."

I hope this helps you. Please let me know if you need more information.

Sincerely,



Loretta Pearl Crites

**Marilyn M. Crites  
227 Church Street  
Whitewater, Missouri 63785**

**Chairperson, Village of Whitewater, Missouri**

September 14, 2000

Dr. Frank Nickell, Director  
Center for Regional History  
Southeast Missouri State University  
Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701

Subject: The proper name for Whitewater Creek or River

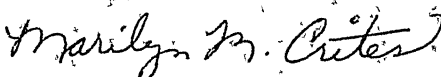
Dear Dr. Nickell:

I have been a lifelong resident of Whitewater, Missouri. When I was growing up, everyone referred to the body of water which flowed just outside the city limits as the *Whitewater Creek*. However, when I was a teenager, a sign was placed by the bridge which read *Whitewater River*. Although many of the oldtimers persisted in referring to it as the creek, I, along with several others, especially those of my generation, began calling it the river.

My mother told me it had always been known as a creek when she was growing up. I'm not exactly sure as to what constitutes the difference between a creek and a river, but I hope that this information will be of some usefulness to you.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Marilyn Marie Crites, Chairperson  
Village of Whitewater, Missouri 63785

